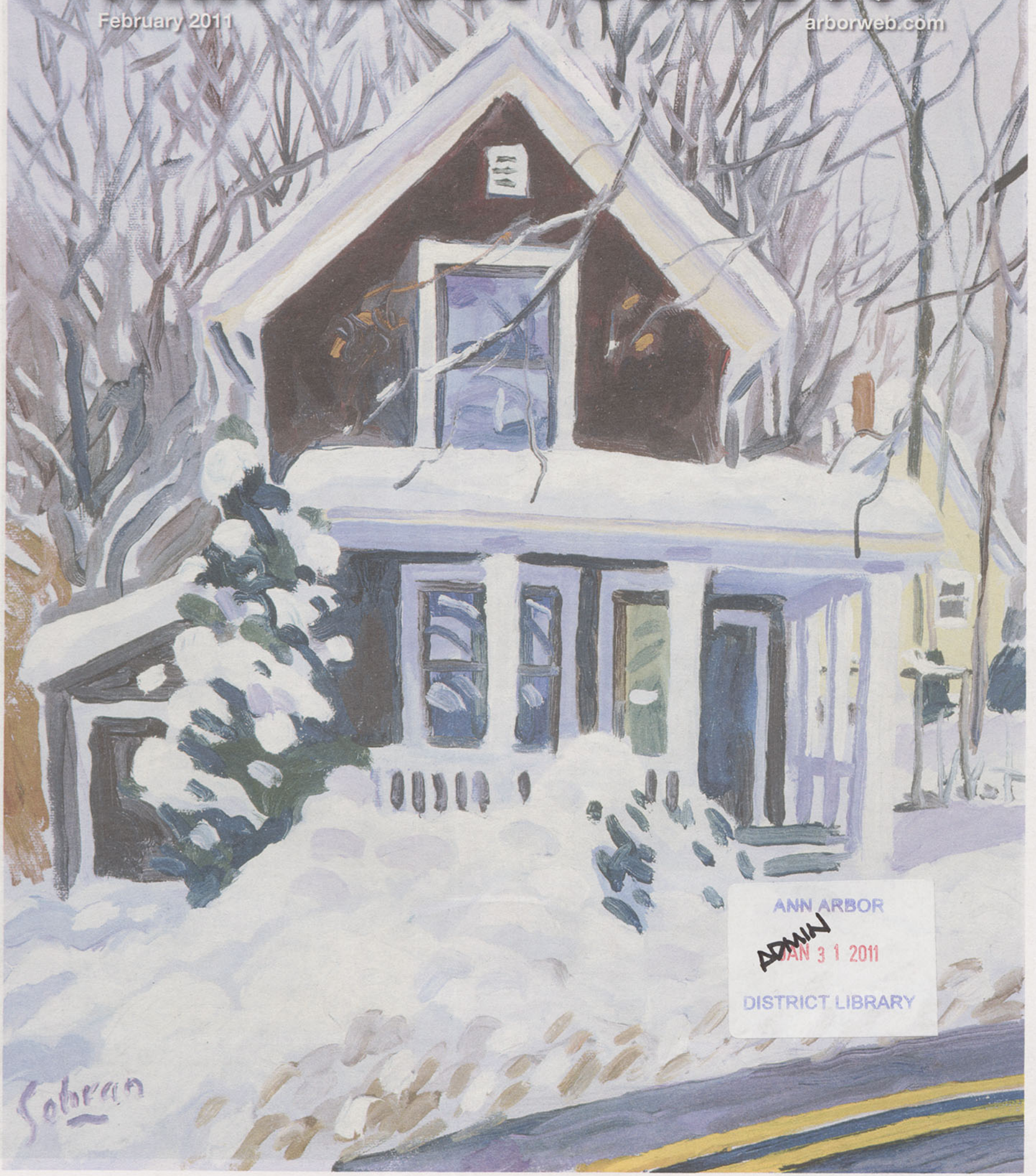


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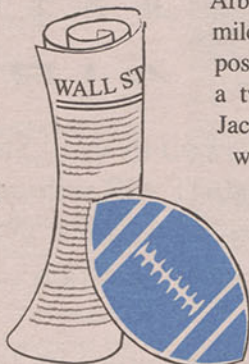
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Third and Long: For two days in January, the most-shared story on the *Wall Street Journal's* website had nothing to do with business: it was a column by local writer John U. Bacon on the firing of Michigan football coach Rich Rodriguez.

Bacon was wrapping up a book on Rodriguez when the Wolverines suffered a humiliating loss in the Gator Bowl on New Year's Day. Recognizing that "a big decision was going to be made," Bacon called former Ann Arborite and WSJ sports editor Sam Walker to pitch the story. Drawing on the preface to his book in progress—*Third and Long: Three Years with Rich Rodriguez and the Michigan Wolverines*—it paints a vivid picture of a stressful, unpredictable sport. Readers were especially struck by Bacon's description of quarterback Denard Robinson's fifteen-hour day, from treatment for a swollen knee at 7 a.m. to signing autographs at 10 p.m.

Bacon expects to deliver a 300-page manuscript to his publisher, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, by February 1 for publication this fall. What's his own view of the Rodriguez firing? "I thought he deserved a fourth year," Bacon says. "But I'm clearly not the athletic director."

Bus Odyssey: Ditch your car and save \$8,000 a year by riding the bus. That's what a recent Ann Arbor Transportation Authority press release suggests. The newly rich bus rider was assumed to have driven a mid-sized sedan 15,000 miles a year. At twenty-three miles a gallon, the fuel savings would come to \$2,000



or so; a plump allowance for depreciation and maintenance added the other \$6,000.

But how in the world would an Ann Arbor-area commuter rack up 15,000 miles on The Ride? About the longest possible trip on AATA routes would be a two-hour, three-bus commute from Jackson Road at Wagner to somewhere near Willow Run High. That's about a thirty-mile round trip by car, so even if you rode the bus five days a week for fifty weeks a year, you'd save only 7,500 miles—and spend 1,000 hours on the bus. To get to 15,000 miles, you'd have to ride another 150 miles every weekend.

Future Geeks: "We are all having increasingly geeky kids," says Dave Nelson, stay-at-home dad of four-year-old Otto Sam. But for all the kids' skill at video games, Nelson says, those are "insular activities—and sometimes it seems like the only way parents can interact with them is in front of a screen."

So when he learned that the No Starch Press wanted "a book of projects for geeky twelve-year-olds to do with their parents," Nelson jumped at it. *Snip, Burn, Solder, Shred: Seriously Geeky Stuff to Make with Your Kids* features two dozen activities, from sewing a sock squid to wiring a joy buzzer. "At the book launch at Workantile Exchange during Midnight Madness, I built a \$10 one-string guitar," he says, "and that sold books all by itself."

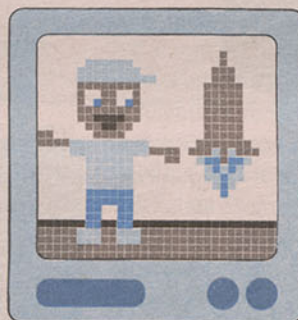
He'll host another demonstration at the AADL on February 22 (see Events).

Un-Refreshing: The Pepsi Refresh Challenge left the Ann Arbor Skatepark Action Committee worn out and still thirsty—for funds. The soft drink giant has shifted some of its advertising budget to charitable donations, giving out grants ranging from \$25,000 to \$250,000 every month. The clever marketing twist: to win, nonprofits had

to persuade supporters to contact Pepsi on their behalf via e-mail or text message, or online.

The skateboard advocates hoped to win \$250,000, and went after the challenge as if it were a political campaign: they put out flyers, talked to businesses, e-mailed, Facebooked, and Tweeted. They even partnered in recruiting online votes with the Saline school district, which was seeking a \$25,000 grant for a greenhouse. Their efforts brought in enough votes to finish in twentieth place in December's balloting—but not enough to win any cash.

Organizer Trevor Staples, a third-grade teacher at Burns Park, considers it "a great result, especially considering who we were up against—national organizations that want to save lives." Because it finished in the top 100, the skatepark project was automatically reentered in Pepsi's January competition. But rather than trying to muster another round of votes, the skateboarders have decided to concentrate on other fund-raising events. The Pepsi contest "took a lot of work!" says Staples.



Library fines:

When an Ann Arbor District Library patron apologized profusely while paying her \$8 fine for overdue materials, the

clerk reassured her: "That's nothing. We have several people who owe more than a thousand dollars in fines."

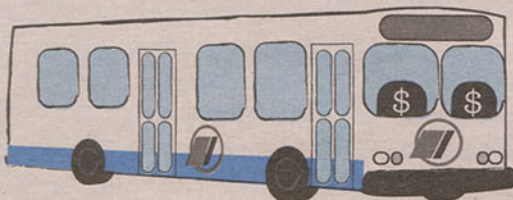
"I don't know who said that but they shouldn't," responds AADL director Josie Parker. "We are bound by privacy laws not to talk about patrons' records. Furthermore, no one has anything close to a thousand dollars in outstanding fees." Parker explains that library users who rack up \$10 or more in fines lose their checkout

privileges until they pay up. If an item will cost \$40 or more to replace—art books, for instance, can run several hundred dollars—and if it isn't returned after forty days, the debt is turned over to a collection agency specializing in library fines. In a typical year, the library brings in about \$500,000 in fines and recovered materials, with the collection agency accounting for about a quarter of the total. "If you consider we have 107,000 cards issued and only 1,800 patrons are referred to the collection agency each year, I think we can conclude that Ann Arbor is a very responsible community as far as library usage is concerned," says Parker. To boost timely returns, the AADL e-mails patrons when an item is due. "It's normal for most people to need a little reminding," she says.



Rum Raiders: During the early hours of February 11, 1931, male students living in five fraternity houses on the U-M campus received unexpected guests—police officers who searched every room for alcohol. Coming just before the annual "J-Hop," one of the biggest parties of the year, the raids turned up around fifty bottles of whiskey, gin, and wine. Nearly eighty students were arrested, including the captain of the football team, the president of the student council, and the sports editor of the *Michigan Daily*.

The age of the kids didn't matter: eighty years ago, the country was still in the grip of Prohibition. But afterward, some of the arrested students claimed they were treated unfairly during the raid. Perhaps prodded by prominent parents, the state legislature investigated. Legislators concluded that the police were "overzealous" and employed "questionable methods," but agreed with the penalties imposed: the students were placed on probation, and the fraternities were shut down for the rest of the school year. While the raids surely dampened the fun at the J-Hop, no permanent harm was done: all five frats reopened the following autumn and remain active to this day.



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Inside Ann Arbor

Winter Bikers

"I didn't bike yesterday," says DeWight Plotner, almost apologetically.

It's the day after a nasty snowfall in mid-January, but Plotner, owner of Wheels in Motion on Washtenaw, feels he needs to explain why he didn't pedal to work as usual—from Pinckney.

Plotner is a member of the city's small but growing community of year-round bikers. They're a savvy, experienced lot who prepare carefully for the challenges of riding on icy roads in poor visibility. Even so, at some point most are willing to draw the line and switch to four-wheeled commuting.

Downtown resident and physician Karen Park says she parks her bike when the "temperature is in the low twenties." Nancy Shore, who promotes alternative commuting through the GetDowntown program, describes herself as a "common sense winter biker" who leaves her bicycle at home "if it seems to be a little bit perilous."

But Jimmy Raggett of Two Wheel Tango rides five miles to work every day, conditions be damned. His five-year-old son bikes to school all winter, too—though his ride is "only a block," Raggett emphasizes. Washtenaw Community College instructor Dale Petty rarely skips his commute from Easy Street on the southeast side, enjoying the beauty of snow-covered Gallup Park. "When I drive, I'm cold," says Petty. "When I bike, I'm warm."

Despite or because of the challenges, winter biking appears to be gaining fans.

Despite or because of the challenges, winter biking appears to be gaining fans. A Two Wheel Tango employee reports that the number of studded tires sold there has doubled in the last two years. Local efforts to encourage year-round commuting include a "winter commuter challenge" run by Wheels in Motion and programs sponsored by the newly formed Common Cycle (info@commoncycle.org.)

Even with the best precautions, most winter riders seem to have had at least one close call. Dale Petty's moment came when a car going too fast for icy conditions on Geddes Road slid into him and "bent the heck out of my back wheel." Still, Petty says he'd rather bike than drive through the white stuff.

"I used to commute [by car] back and forth to Royal Oak in wintertime," Petty emails. "That was really terrifying."



Wheels in Motion's DeWight Plotner rides to work year-round—from Pinckney.

The Sun Shines on the Weather Underground

A U-M spin-off named after a radical sixties group is an unlikely capitalist success story.

When Jeff Masters helped launch the Weather Underground as a private company in 1995, he never dreamed it would become the second-biggest weather resource in the country. "I figured maybe we'd have ten people a decade into the future and would run out of things to put on the website," admits the unassuming Masters, one of four U-M grads who run the company. Yet today the site employs thirty-seven people and ranks second only to the Weather Channel's weather.com in traffic. In January, Quantcast rated wunderground.com the fifty-seventh-largest site on the web, with 17 million unique visitors in the previous month.

Masters says the site's radar scans, which can be set in motion to track the direction in which storms are moving, are a big draw. So is Masters' own blog, a fascinating and readable account of the weather topics of the day. Hundreds of users, ranging from professional meteorologists to amateur hobbyists, contribute their own blogs. The Weather Underground also has the world's largest network of "backyard" personal weather stations—more than 10,000 (the six in Ann Arbor include one at Leslie Park Golf Course and one at Loch Alpine)—plus more than a million user-

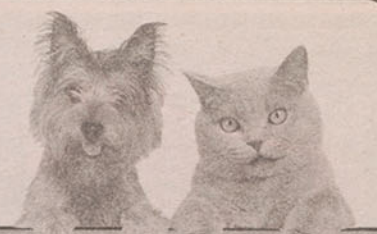
posted weather photos and more than 1,000 webcams.

Though the company recently doubled its Ann Arbor office space on North Fifth Avenue, only five employees are based here, including Masters and co-founder Jeff Ferguson, a U-M computer science grad. Thirty-two (meteorologists, computer scientists, techies, and sales staff) work in San Francisco, where the other two working founders, Chris Schwertler and CEO Alan Sterenberg, moved in the mid-1990s. "At the time, the Bay Area was the only viable place to have a data center for an Internet start-up company," explains Masters. "Bandwidth was too expensive anywhere else."

Until this past year, the company had never spent any money advertising its website. Growth came by word of mouth,



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Inside Ann Arbor

aided greatly by the millions of weather "stickers" the company has given away to any site that wants one (including the Observer's site, arborweb.com). They update the local temperature hourly, and when clicked on take you to wunderground.com.

The company grew out of weather-education efforts by U-M meteorology prof Perry Samson. Though he's not an employee, Samson still sometimes works on special projects—he created the site's interactive tornado map, which lets viewers see reports, radar tracks, and even photos of recent twisters.

The company's whimsical name doesn't even register as a pun today with most visitors. But one day in 1997, "when the website was in its infancy, I got a call from one of the original members of the Weather Underground," laughs Masters. "I remember being a little nervous, since they were pretty radical, but she assured me she thought the website was great."

Death from Above

*Hawks make a comeback
in Ann Arbor.*

The pair of peregrine falcons in Burton Tower get the press, but the real raptor story in Ann Arbor is the growing number of hawks in town. In December, a Cooper's hawk was seen flapping down Covington, a full-sized squirrel hanging limply from its claws. Days later in the same southwest-side neighborhood, a red-tailed hawk plunged down out of a clear sky, ripped a small bird from its nest at the top of a maple tree, then banked hard and soared off.

"A Cooper's hawk will eat other birds—including robins and cardinals—as well as small mammals," explains Dea Armstrong, the chief ornithologist with the city's natural area preservation unit. Their bigger relatives go after bigger game. "I've seen red-tailed hawks hunting in my yard for chipmunks, squirrels, even rabbits if they're small enough," says Armstrong.

The squirrels might not agree, but "hawks have a very positive impact on our environment," says Francie Krawcke, director of the Leslie Science Center's raptor program. "They take care of a lot of the pests—rodents, moles, voles, and mice, even groundhogs. They can carry something up to half [their] body weight."

Hawks are having a positive impact on our environment because we're no longer having a negative impact on them through insecticides. "Back in the '70s, things were awful for raptors," Armstrong explains. "The DDT would be ingested by lower members of the food chain, then it would be ingested by hawks and other raptors, and they'd have terrible soft eggshells and new birds born with misshapen beaks. But they've all made huge comebacks. Look at the bald eagle. There were 500 in the country. Now there are 500 in Michigan alone."



A Cooper's hawk, one of a growing population, perches in the Arboretum.

NANCY JOHNSTON

hawk, but the Cooper's hawks are in the woods—you don't see them, because they're well concealed."

The Washtenaw Audubon Society survey counts the actual numbers of birds seen in a single 24-hour period. Armstrong says volunteers saw an average of about seventeen Cooper's hawks a year during the 2000s, up from about ten in the 1990s. The red-tailed count has averaged about thirty-four over the last decade. Armstrong guesses the real numbers of both types of hawks could be double the counts.

The count covers a 15-mile radius from the center of Ann Arbor, and many hawks, like the group Armstrong saw, live in the nearby countryside. But they show no fear of the city. "Cooper's hawks are all over town," says Armstrong. "I've seen them hunt on the Diag. But that's nothing—I've seen red-tails hunt on the Diag."

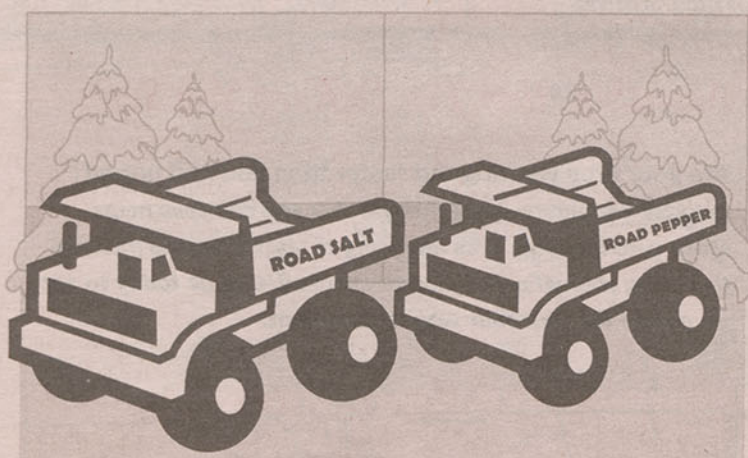
Armstrong can top even that. She's seen Cooper's hawks nest near her northwest-side home. "Somewhere around here I have a picture of three young Cooper's hawks perched along the edge of a bench in my backyard," she says. "It's quite a sight!"

Neither Armstrong nor Krawcke can say for sure how many hawks are in town. But "there are more than there used to be," says Krawcke. "Dozens at least."

Armstrong can be a bit more precise. "For my Christmas bird count, we found nine red-tailed hawks from 8:30 to 2:30 in a very small area north of North Territorial Road. We saw one Cooper's

Tim Athan

Life in Ann Arbor



question corner

Q. Were any Titanic survivors buried in Ann Arbor?

A. Of the 2,223 people aboard the Titanic, only 706 survived the ocean liner's sinking in April 1912. Their final burial places are not easily determined, but many passengers were Michigan residents, and many others were immigrants seeking opportunity in the fast-growing Midwest: the dead included Jovo Calic of Croatia, who was bound for Sault Ste. Marie; Alfons de Pelsmaeker of Belgium, going to Gladstone. While passengers traveling in third class were the most likely to die, Hanna Touma of Lebanon survived to complete her trip to Dowagiac. Other passengers' destinations included Detroit, Houghton, Albion, and Iron Mountain.

A passenger listed as "John Linane" was actually John Lingane, of

Chelsea. He died in the wreck, and his body was never recovered. He is remembered on a gravestone in Oak Grove Cemetery, and his family name survives in Lingane Rd.

Survivor Frank Goldsmith Jr. was bound from England to Detroit. He died in 1982 and had his ashes scattered over the North Atlantic waters above the Titanic, reuniting him with his father, who perished in the wreck. Another Michigan resident, Winnifred Vera Quick Van Tongerlo, was one of the longest-lived survivors. She died on July 4, 2002, in East Lansing and is buried in Detroit's Mount Olivet Cemetery.

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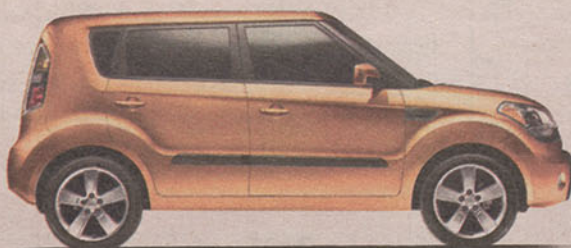
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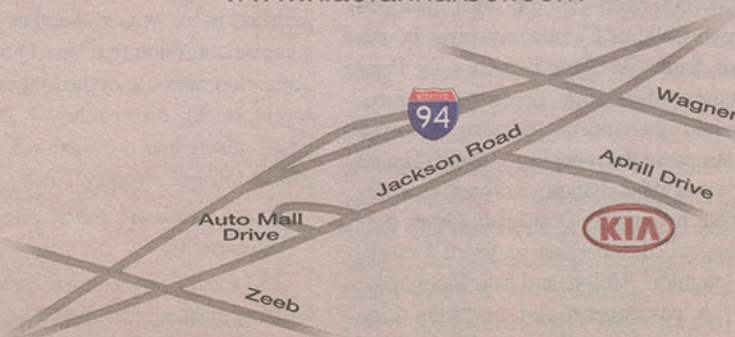


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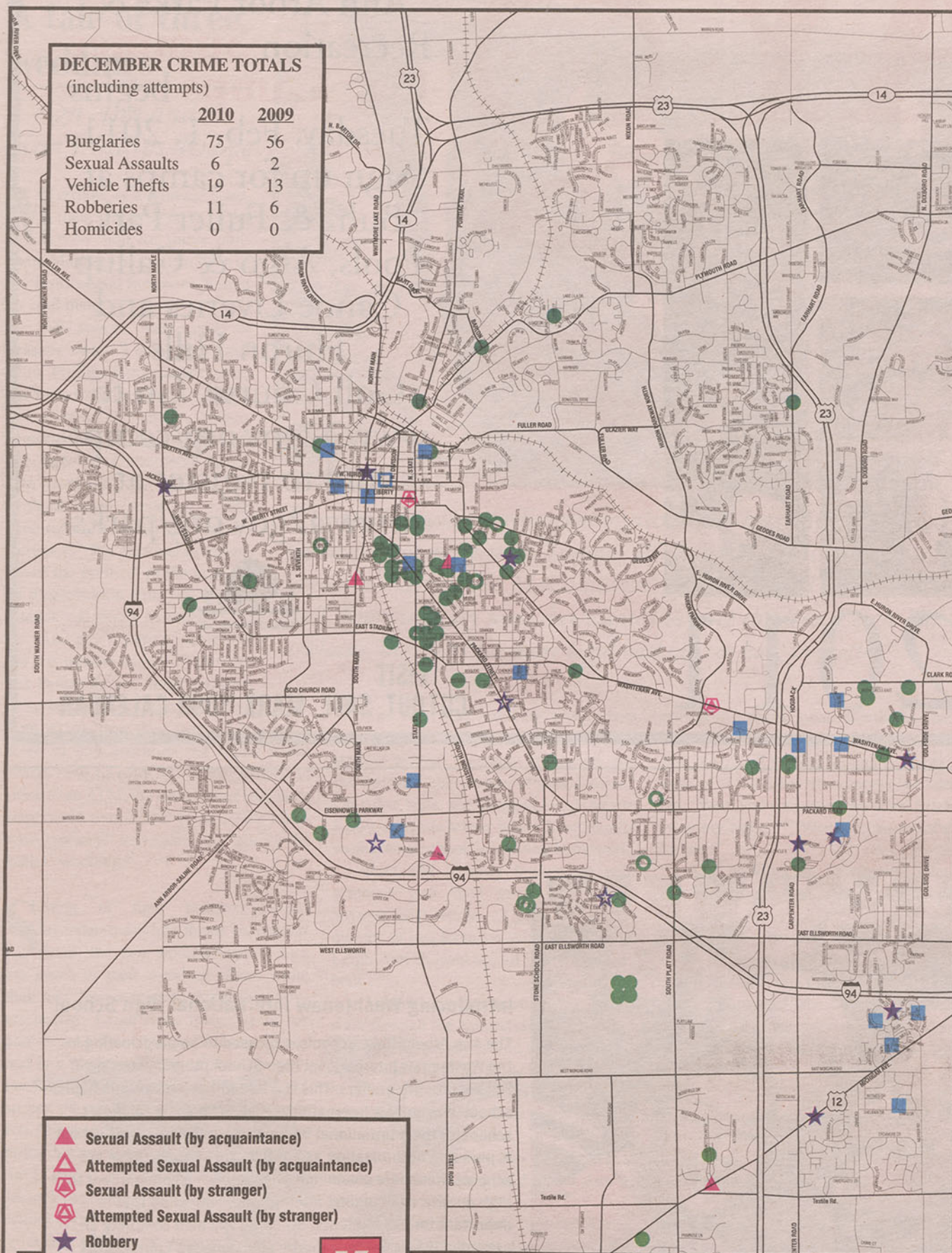
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CrimeMap

DECEMBER CRIME TOTALS (including attempts)

	2010	2009
Burglaries	75	56
Sexual Assaults	6	2
Vehicle Thefts	19	13
Robberies	11	6
Homicides	0	0



- ▲ Sexual Assault (by acquaintance)
- ▲ Attempted Sexual Assault (by acquaintance)
- ▲ Sexual Assault (by stranger)
- ▲ Attempted Sexual Assault (by stranger)
- ★ Robbery
- ★ Attempted Robbery
- Burglary
- Attempted Burglary
- Vehicle Theft
- Attempted Vehicle Theft

KEY

These are the major crimes and attempted crimes at Ann Arbor addresses reported by the Ann Arbor Police Department and the public safety departments of the U-M and Pittsfield Township in December 2010. Because locations are reported by block rather than by address, placement is approximate.

If you need police help in an emergency, call 911. If you have information about a crime, call your police department's anonymous 24-hour tip line: 996-3199 in Ann Arbor, (800) 863-1355 on campus, or 944-1238 in Pittsfield. If you have questions about a crime shown here, call Ann Arbor Neighborhood Watch (994-8775, Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.), the U-M Department of Public Safety (763-1131), or the Pittsfield Department of Public Safety (944-4911).

The box at the top of the map shows the number of crimes reported in December 2010 and December 2009.

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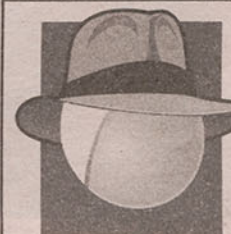
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Ann Arborites

A tale of three weddings

Leigh Ann and Kim Phillips-Knope

Marriage as a political statement. Marriage as legal protection for future children. Marriage as a celebration of the heart's good fortune in finding its soul mate.

All serious stuff, and all reasons why Leigh Ann and Kim Phillips-Knope have gone through three separate wedding ceremonies—in Ontario, Massachusetts, and Michigan. Although the last, on Drummond Island five years ago, was the only one without legal standing, Leigh Ann recalls it as “an amazing experience!” The personal overshadowed the political in the pure joy of a celebration with 100 of their friends and family members.

The gay wedding was a first for the remote island off the Upper Peninsula, and local residents were bemused but friendly. Leigh Ann recalls how they stopped at a small store to buy groceries but found themselves short on cash. When they offered to drive to an ATM, the store owner told them they could return later to pay. “We know who you are,” he explained. “You’re the ladies’ wedding.”

Sitting in their hundred-year-old lavender-and-white house on Earhart Road, the two women happily turn the pages of their wedding album while their dog, Neli, a rescued terrier mix, hovers nearby. Leigh Ann, forty, wears her hair in a spiky style, sports a nose ring, and is a bit more outgoing than the serious looking Kim, thirty-six, a former U-M soccer player. Kim is programs director for Affirmations, a Ferndale-based nonprofit that provides support and services to the LGBT (Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transsexual) population. She also consults for school districts around the state that want to create safer environments for LGBT kids, a growing need in the wake of recent tragedies involving gay youth who are bullied. Leigh Ann consults for nonprofits; her past projects have included coordinating the Howell domestic violence shelter and facilitating a therapeutic yoga program for local cancer patients. This spring, the couple will combine their skills in a new business called Roots of Change.

Leigh Ann grew up in Milford and came out as a lesbian in her early twenties. Kim, from East Lansing, first identified herself as gay at fourteen. She was fortunate, she says, to have nurturing high school teachers who looked out for her well-being.



After the Canadian parliament legalized gay marriage in 2004, the couple got married in Toronto. When a court ruling legalized same-sex marriage in Massachusetts, they exchanged vows there as well. Knowing they some day wanted to have children, Leigh Ann explains, they felt “the more legal backing we had, the better.”

The two were fixed up seven years ago by a pal of Leigh Ann's. The friend, a straight woman, teasingly told Leigh Ann she had met “the woman of your dreams.” On a dog walk, she dragged Leigh Ann to Kim's westside home, where Kim, then in social work school, was doing homework.

Kim had recently broken up with someone and “had sworn off seeing anyone,” she recalls. “I gave myself six months to just focus on school. But when Leigh Ann showed up, all that went overboard!”

A week after that meeting, they took a walk through the Arboretum. When Leigh Ann mentioned she would be visiting Hawaii in a few months, Kim recalls thinking, “I’ll be going with her!” That happened, but only after what both describe jokingly as “forty-nine first dates,” in which each was too shy to express her feelings. That changed when Kim joined Leigh Ann in romantic Hawaii.

Their marital history is complicated. In October 2004, a year after they met, the two were married in the Toronto city hall. It was “soon after the Canadian parliament legalized gay marriage,” Leigh Ann recalls in an email, and “City Hall was bustling with amazingly positive energy and pride.” When a court ruling legalized same-sex marriage in Massachusetts, the two exchanged vows there as well, in a short civil ceremony. Knowing they some day wanted to have children, possibly by adoption, Leigh Ann explains, they felt “the more legal backing we had, the better.”

While Ontario and Massachusetts stepped forward, Michigan moved backward. Both women felt the pain when, in the fall of 2004, voters decisively ap-

proved a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage. Afterward, Leigh Ann recalls, “I walked around for weeks” looking at the faces of strangers, wondering, “Were you someone who voted to take away my rights?” “Were you an advocate for me?”

The wedding on Drummond Island the following summer eased the sting: “Ceremony itself is recognition,” says Kim. Both women felt empowered by the weekend of celebration. As career activists, they were also thrilled. The director of the Drummond Island Resort “thanked us personally for our role in helping evolve the island’s awareness about gay marriage,” Leigh Ann emails. Though the State of Michigan doesn’t recognize any of their marriages, they view their exchange of vows on Drummond Island as the occasion when they truly became a married couple.

Valentine's Day will come early for the Phillips-Knopees: on Saturday, February 12, they will lead “partner yoga,” a paid workshop where couples share yoga, massage, and relaxation techniques. On Love Day itself, the couple will probably do the conventional dinner out with rich desserts.

Ann Arbor, they say, is one of the few places where they feel comfortable holding hands in public. Although romance is clearly alive in their relationship, they are realistic enough at this point to smile and shrug when asked about little irritants in their marriage. “Nobody’s perfect,” says Kim, “We have our problems, just like everyone else.”

—Eve Silberman

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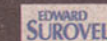
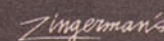
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Saginaw, Detroit, Ann Arbor

Pursuing the art of Jon Onye Lockard

Last June, a chartered van left Saginaw Valley State University and rolled 100 miles southeast to Detroit. The riders were my art students, and their mission was to compare and contrast the murals at the Detroit Institute of Art by Diego Rivera with those at Wayne State University's Manoogian Center by Ann Arbor artist Jon Onye Lockard.

Lockard has been a visible presence in Ann Arbor since the mid-1960s. After art study in Detroit and in Canada, he started out painting portraits in a State Street home interiors shop. Then he had a studio on Fourth Avenue, about where Gallery Project is now. I first saw his paintings in the window of that gallery when I was barely into my teens.

Lockard's art is about African American struggle, its pain and joy. His visual style is assertive, athletic, muscular, buxom, bountiful, busting out all over. His oil-and-acrylic painting "Life Dance" is the most loving exploration I've seen of the female form in our time—a voluptuous dancing black woman, atop rows of muted movie-frames unspooling from her lover's memory of each of her parts. Lockard lent the work to a retrospective show at SVSU two years ago. Why isn't she in a top museum collection?

The Manoogian murals are a five-panel cycle titled "Continuum," and my students and I see something new every time we study them. There are figures inspired by Mexican muralists José Clemente Orozco, David Alfaro Siqueiros, and New York painter Harvey Dinnerstein. There's a baroque swirl of figures ascending and falling in the panels depicting African American experience, and a variegated splendor in those that embody the historic cultures of Africa. While the continent's ancient civilizations slumber, a male figure is ripped westward, as so many Africans were. Women are depicted proudly pregnant in their homelands, or groaning in childbirth under antebellum slavery. And there's a utopian, almost futuristic, black family with an only child whose athletic, attractive parents might have been inspired by O. J. Simpson and Nichelle Nichols (Lieutenant Uhura on the first *Star Trek*).

Those images are a reminder that the murals are now thirty years old. Lockard painted them during a Michigan winter in an ad hoc backyard studio made of lumber and plastic sheeting. I've viewed a lot of community murals, in northern and southern California, Philadelphia, and Dakar, and count these panels among the best. Certainly "Continuum" is one of the top ten or dozen public artworks in Michigan and a fine response to Diego Rivera's



The Postmodern era has made room for successful African painters in London, Chicano muralists in California, and new African American artists in the critical eye. It's definitely Lockard's turn to be studied, debated, and appreciated.

"Detroit Industry," by a Detroit-born artist who grew into awareness a generation later.

Born in 1932, Lockard grew up in the time when Detroit industry was strong and vital, but also when black people were largely invisible in the mass media (or flattened into limited, often subservient social roles). Perhaps that's why he gives his painted figures maximum solidity and presence by shaping them under "Hollywood" lighting, with a key light (often in a hot color) from one direction and a fill light (often cool) from another. His art says, "Black is Beautiful, and black people are undeniable."

Though Lockard won mural and portrait commissions around the Midwest, his public profile diminished locally after the 1981 Ann Arbor Art Fair. That year, the long-exhibiting artist was bounced from the original fair for entering two stained glass windows that he had designed but that were fabricated by a student. Lockard responded with a lawsuit hoping to crack open the fair's secretive, clubby processes. "He has a reputation for being ... difficult," one local art administrator opined a decade later. But I still agree with WEMU's Arwulf Arwulf that the event "ain't art and it ain't fair."

For about four decades Lockard taught at the U-M and Washtenaw Community College, and he is numbered among Ann Arbor's great teachers. My own parents, like many local residents of European ancestry, were queasy about Ann Arbor's racial integration in the 1960s, yet suggested I make use of a semester away from my out-of-state college by studying at WCC with Lockard. They compared his observational portrait technique to their own bravura favorite, John Singer Sargent.

Lockard didn't want his students paying tuition to lazily "do their own thing,"

and his classes were dedicated to learning to represent the human figure accurately. No thrashing around with media you weren't ready for: you had to demonstrate skill in drawing a model in a full range of values with a single black or brown Conté crayon before using both together, then move on to mastery of chalk pastels before starting to paint.

Lockard's own paintings use light, chiaroscuro, and value range adapted from classical European style, then dialed up to eleven, to create incredibly solid forms in cramped and complicated visual spaces. He then alternates these forms with areas of decorative flat color. "It looks very Seventies" sniffs an art historian at SVSU. But I remember that decade as a crucial one in both politics (the first African American mayors in Detroit and Ann Arbor) and popular culture (many of the same modeling techniques were adopted by comic book cover illustrators like Frank Frazetta and Boris Vallejo). Academia was still under the spell of abstraction, but even then, one could argue that Lockard's artwork had an influence on campus. Two alums from that era, Mike Kelley and Jim Shaw, creatively resisted abstraction and embraced figuration. Today, they're blue-chip international art stars, commissioning billboard painters to execute their designs in mural-scale paintings and installations in museums in Europe and the U.S.

The Postmodern era has made room for successful African painters in London, Chicano muralists in California, and new African American artists in the critical eye. It's definitely Lockard's turn to be studied, debated, and appreciated. So when I teach my biennial mural class again next year, another crop of students can expect to climb into a van to see his masterwork in Detroit.

—Mike Mosher

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Ask Washtenaw County Treasurer Catherine McClary about the perils inherent in underfunded retirement plans and she'll tell you flat out: "It's a time bomb for government at all levels. The assumption is that government will always be there and always pay. But while that's been true in the past, it may not necessarily always be true in the future."

That time bomb certainly seems to be threatening nationally. To meet its commitments, Illinois' state pension fund will need another \$80 billion, California a staggering \$500 billion. Michigan, with an estimated \$54 billion in unfunded obligations, is not quite in that class. But our state's lower per capita income and higher poverty and unemployment rates make the fuse on our bomb that much shorter.

Hamtramck, where union contracts with plush pension plans form a big part of the city's structural budget deficit, already is seeking state permission to declare bankruptcy. And as governor Rick Snyder noted after his election last November,

"We've lived good lives for a number of decades," says county administrator Verna McDaniel, "but now change has come, and it's going to hurt and hurt badly."

Hamtramck is hardly alone: "There could be hundreds of jurisdictions" in Michigan in such acute financial distress.

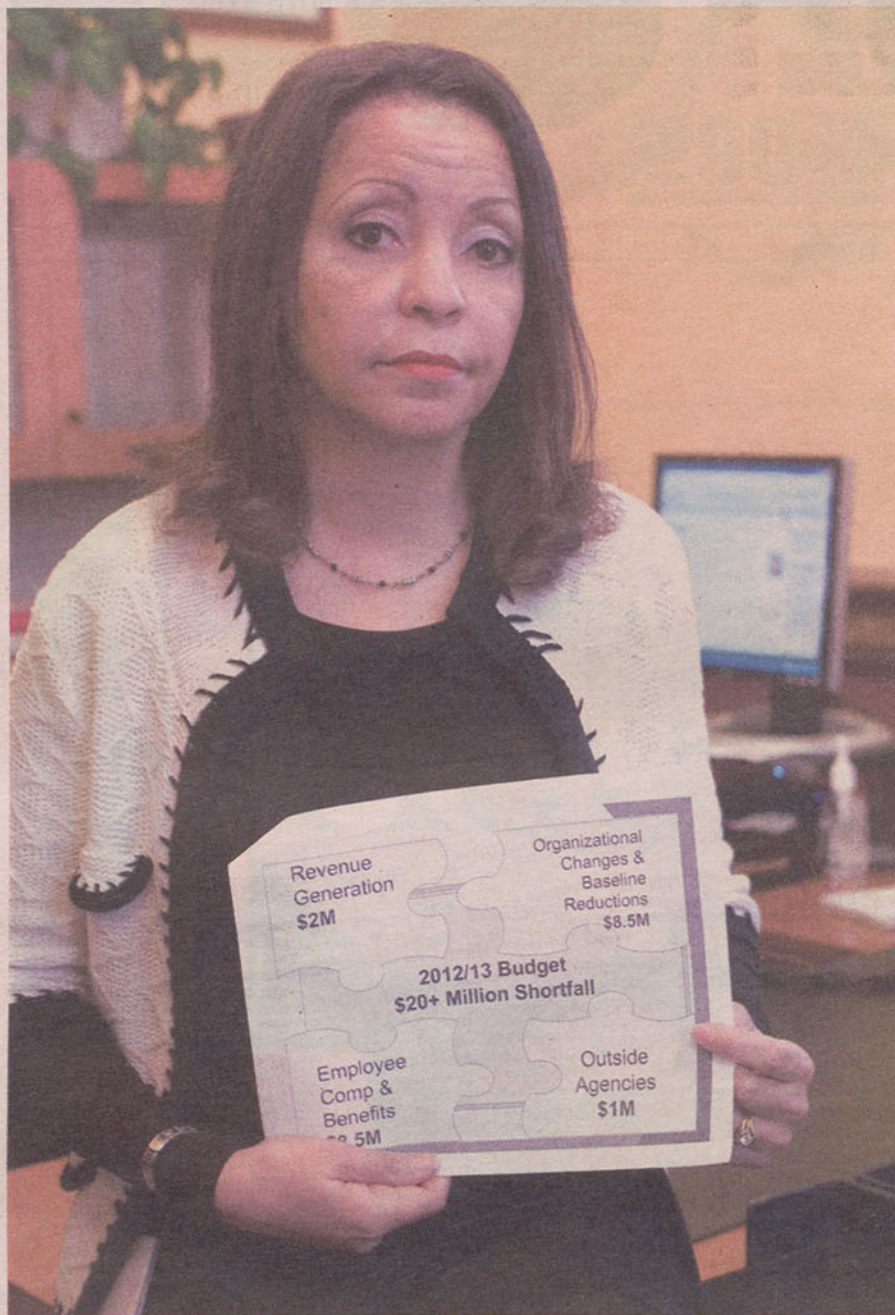
Because pension funds invest heavily in the stock market, the 2008 meltdown blew a huge hole in plans across the country—and locally, too. Between 2008 and 2009, the city of Ann Arbor's pension funds lost \$104 million in value, while Washtenaw County's lost \$34 million.

The market's partial recovery and their own sound investment strategies have put the city and county on track to make good on the losses, but officials fear that unless union contracts change, ever-rising costs will strain city and county resources for the foreseeable future. Already, the two governments together spend nearly \$50 million a year on retirees' pensions and health insurance.

"Retirement benefits, and especially health care benefits, have to change," says Ann Arbor mayor John Hieftje. County administrator Verna McDaniel wholeheartedly agrees. "We have to bring health care costs down. If we don't, we'll have a huge problem."

Over the years, the unions representing city and county workers have negotiated very generous retirement benefits.

What price pensions?



"It's going to hurt and hurt badly."

Most employees qualify for a pension, with lifetime family health insurance after just twenty-five years of service. They can begin collecting those benefits at age fifty—even earlier for police and firefighters. To pay for all this, Ann Arbor has a property tax dedicated solely to retiree benefits, which will bring in more than \$9 million this year. Thanks to the millage, a rising stock market, and low payouts, as recently as 2004 Ann Arbor's retirement plans were 150 percent funded, meaning that they held more than enough money to pay all current and anticipated benefits.

But as city staff cuts pushed workers into retirement, payouts rose. "By 2005, the percentage had dropped from 150 to 125," says Tom Crawford, Ann Arbor's chief financial officer. "By 2008, we

were at 100 percent, and that's where we thought it would stay." Crawford sighs. "Then the market melted down, and that wiped out a chunk of the [investment] earnings"—a \$104 million chunk. That wasn't as disastrous as it sounds, Mayor Hieftje explains, because "benefits aren't a one-time payment." Even after the crash, he says, "there's enough money in the fund to pay for benefits to those in the fund now and for those coming up in the next several years."

Still, the meltdown had a huge impact. "We lost so much money that we also lost some of retirees' [own contributions]," says Crawford, "and a year ago, we were about \$6 million short." Smoothing out the losses over five years, plus adding \$1 million from the general fund,

Crawford says, has since largely made up that deficit.

But what about tomorrow? Already, the city has more retirees, 879, than active employees, 728. Crawford explains that in itself the imbalance isn't a problem. "If you're 100 percent funded, then those 879 already have all the money in the trust fund they'll need. That's where we were in 2008." But as the market losses of 2008–2009 are gradually accounted for, "we're heading towards 75 percent funded," he says—though even that is still enough to be able to pay all benefits due.

Between the stock market recovery and the continued inflows from the pension millage, "by 2015 everything will be all right—if there are no other economic disasters," says city administrator Roger Fraser, somewhat reassuringly. "But," Mayor Hieftje notes, "if this decade we're in turns out to be as bad or worse than the one we just left, I don't know if there'd be many pension plans left in place anywhere."

Defusing the bomb lit by the market meltdown is one thing; defusing the bomb lit by rising retirement costs is another. "Retirement benefits have been a central theme of union negotiations for quite some time," says Hieftje. "We've made some progress, but it is extremely difficult to get any of what was put into the contract in the '70s, '80s, and '90s taken out—even though the economic situation has changed radically since then."

The way Hieftje sees it, the current system is "punishing the taxpayer—they pay for it by more money going into benefits and less into services." In future negotiations, he says, "we would really like to get longer years of service from the employee [before retirement], particularly from safety services, and greater participation from the employees"—meaning, contributing more of their own money to the retirement fund. Ideally, "we'd like to get the current [unionized] employees into the same plan as salaried employees," Hieftje says, "and make it more like the U-M and private sector businesses."

"We believe employees can put more in," agrees Fraser, "and some already have. Our firefighters and our nonunion employees are at 6 percent [contribution], while AFSCME and the police unions are still at 5 [percent]." The city administrator grudgingly admits, however, that "by and large," he's "not that dissatisfied" with the city's current union contracts, and that "compared to other places in southeastern Michigan, they are probably fair."

Fraser also says there's no comparison between Ann Arbor and Hamtramck. "Hamtramck is a financial nightmare: a small city dependent on a shared relationship with Detroit for a portion of their revenue—and Detroit has decided to stop paying." Nor, in Fraser's opinion, is Ann Arbor like any of Governor Snyder's other financially distressed cities. "We're in southeastern Michigan, so we still have difficulties," says the city's administrator. "But compared to other cities, we are doing fairly well."

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What price pensions?

The 2008 market meltdown also rocked the county's pension funds. "We're trying to manage it," says treasurer McClary, "but it's tough. And we are underfunded at this point." County retirement administrator Monica Boote confirms that "the pension plan is at 74 percent," while noting that "anything over 70 percent is considered a healthy fund." Like the city's, the county's pension investments took a big hit in 2008-2009, losing "about 23-24 percent of [their] value."

The pension plan is only part of the county's retirement benefits package. There's also a separately funded health care plan—"a very immature fund," Boote explains, "that's been around less than ten years." That fund lost 22 percent of its value in the meltdown, and is now just 24 percent funded. On top of that, Boote says, "the sheer number of retirements increased in 2009. We usually have twenty-five to thirty a year. But because it was an expired [union] contract year, in 2009 we had eighty retirements," as employees hurried to leave ahead of possible benefit cuts.

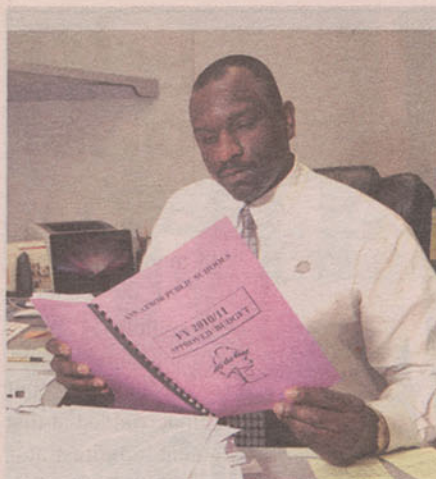
Despite all this, county administrator Verna McDaniel stresses, "we were always able to meet our obligations" to the county's retirees, though they had to shift \$6.7 million from the general fund to the retirement fund in 2009 in order to do it.

"Both plans did well in 2009," Boote says, and are recovering their value. But McDaniel warns that the county is anything but out of the woods. "Health care costs are a ticking time bomb," the administrator stresses. "At the same time that we have to bring the fund balances up, we have to bring health care costs down. If we don't, we'll have a huge problem. And it could happen sooner rather than later if our retiree numbers increase dramatically or if we got a huge cut in state revenue sharing."

So, McDaniel says, retirement benefits "will be near the top of the list" in this year's union negotiations. "Particularly health care. We can't hide from it, and we've got to take it on the front end or we'll get it on the back end."

McDaniel, who spent most of her career with the county in human services, characterizes the current health care plan as "generous," but says "we can't continue it out into the future. I'm not against our employees being compensated fairly, but the reality is we can't afford it. We've lived good lives for a number of decades, but now change has come, and it's going to hurt and hurt badly."

"I don't want to be overly harsh," the county administrator concludes. "But this is going to be hard for everybody, and it is not going to be popular."



"We're at the mercy of the state"

The Ann Arbor Public Schools also face rising costs for pensions and retiree health care. But unlike the city and county, local school officials have virtually no control over those costs, because the state administers all school retirement funds.

"The percentage that we are required to contribute is based on the State of Michigan's fiscal year," explains Nancy Hoover, the district's finance director. In the past five years, it's jumped from 12.99 percent of payroll to 20.66 percent. "And if the current trend continues, it will be larger," Hoover says. "Potentially much larger."

"We're stuck between a rock and a hard place," says school board president Deb Mexicotte. "All the costs come to us, but without any control over any of those costs. And it is our expectation that they will continue to rise precipitously over the next several years."

"We're at the mercy of the state," agrees interim superintendent Robert Allen (above), "and there's absolutely nothing we can do about it." Any reform in pensions and retiree health care "has to be done by the state legislature, and so far there hasn't been the political will to address the problem. And when that number continues to climb—and it will continue to climb—it'll be a disaster for the district, and for the state."

"This is happening all over the state and not just in Ann Arbor," Mexicotte concludes. "Ann Arbor has been very proactive, and we're in better shape than the majority of districts in the state. But we had a \$40 million reserve ten years ago and we have a \$10 million reserve now, with a built-in structural deficit that's only going to get bigger."

—J.L.



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Erin's Caldecott

How a local illustrator won her field's highest prize **BY STEVE GILZOW**

The call came to the Depot Street apartment about 9 a.m. on Monday, January 10. Erin Stead heard the news, but couldn't believe it. "Relax for the next few hours," the woman from the American Library Association told her. "At noon your entire life is going to change."

Erin, who is quiet and shy, phoned her publisher to check. It was true: her artwork in *A Sick Day for Amos McGee*, written by her husband, Phil, had just won the ALA's Caldecott Medal, the most prestigious prize in children's book illustration. At noon, her award would be announced to the rest of the world.

Phil and their dog, Wednesday, had been heading out for a walk in Wheeler Park when the phone rang. After absorbing the news, Erin sat silently, allowing her breathing to return to normal. Then she raced after them. "I'm not a screamer," she says. "But running down to the park, that was helpful."

One of the first people the couple called was their art teacher at Dearborn's Divine Child High School, where they met in 1999. Phil was a few months from graduating and Erin was a sophomore. "It sounds cheesy, but I noticed what she was drawing and I was really impressed," he recalls.

At first, Erin didn't know what to make of Phil's attention. "He was a really popular senior and I was very shy. I thought he was making fun of me, for the

first month or so. But he kept calling, and we started dating that summer."

That fall, Phil entered the U-M on an athletic scholarship. He ran the 800 meters and studied art, "filling my electives with creative writing classes." He also worked at Zingerman's, turning out hundreds of drawings in the distinctive style created by their primary illustrator, Ian Nagy.

The couple maintained their relationship long distance as Erin embarked on a checkerboard series of moves: a year of art school in Baltimore, then a year of art school in New York City, combined with a job at the children's bookstore Books of Wonder, then back to art school in Baltimore. In 2004, she and Wednesday, a Baltimore shelter dog, joined Phil in Ann Arbor. Erin got a job in children's books at the downtown Borders.

The Steads married in 2005 and moved to Brooklyn. Phil did freelance illustration and worked at the Brooklyn Children's Museum. Erin went back to Books of Wonder as assistant manager, but soon left to become assistant to the creative director of the children's department at HarperCollins. A lofty title, she says, but actually it was "the lowest of the low—sifting through the slush pile." She filtered stacks of artwork sent in by aspiring artists, people struggling to be noticed, just like Phil and herself. The job had benefits, but living in New York City was expensive. Money was tight. Worse, Erin's confidence as an artist was slipping away. She went an entire year without producing a single drawing.

The couple were sustained, Erin says, by "an amazing community of friends" from Books of Wonder. The famed store's young employees sold books by day and drew or wrote at night, hoping to be published. Finally, one friend broke through and sold a book to Roaring Brook Press, an imprint of Macmillan. He brought Phil's work to the attention of its editor, Neal Porter. Before long, Phil had a contract to write and illustrate his first book, *Creamed Tuna Fish and Peas on Toast*. The same friend told Porter that "Phil's wife is also an artist, but she keeps to herself and she'll never show you anything."



STEVE GILZOW

Erin broke her yearlong drought with a single drawing—of an elephant and an old man. Without her knowledge, Phil emailed the image to Porter. "I knew if I ever said anything to her about it," he explains, "this thing would end up in the trash."

Porter emailed back: "This is fantastic, I love it. How can we get her to do a book?" He scheduled a meeting for the next week. Phil parked himself at his computer and, in a few hours, composed the basic story for *Amos*: a zookeeper, sick at home, is visited by his animal friends. Though the story would undergo revisions, its arc and its characters were established.

It took Erin more than two years to create *Amos*'s distinctive illustrations, a soft blend of woodblock and pencil. During that time, the Steads lived in four different houses. To save money, they left Brooklyn for the tiny Catskill town of Willow, near Woodstock. Within a week, a tree fell onto their car, totaling it. Their house had mold and a bad landlord. They moved next door, but even then "basically felt we were in prison."

In the summer of 2008, with no paying jobs, both working on unpublished books, their money and nerves at low ebb, the Steads heard from Phil's old landlord in Ann Arbor. She knew an inexpensive place on Keech Avenue they could have. Why not come back, she suggested, "for a three-week break?"

"So we wind up back in Ann Arbor and it's instantaneous," Phil says. "Waves of stress are falling off us. Wednesday is happiest of all, finding her old walks, going to Dogma Catmantoo."

The house on Keech led to a house on Seventh Street, where Erin did what she calls "the final and best" *Amos* illustrations. The book was published last spring, about the time they moved to the converted Detroit Edison barn on Depot.

Their "three-week break" in Ann Arbor is now in its third year. "We're loving life," says Phil, who's teaching at WCC while working on his next book. His *Jonathan and the Big Blue Boat* will be published in June.

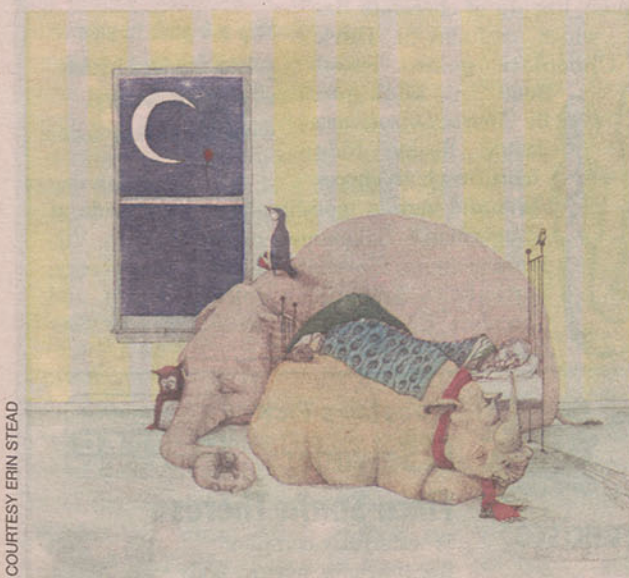
Erin, too, has a book coming out soon—a collaboration with a friend from Books of Wonder—and is working on another, written by Phil. Meanwhile,

her publisher is increasing *Amos*'s print run to close to 100,000 copies. As a Caldecott winner, it's guaranteed to sell strongly to libraries and likely to remain in print for decades. But its greatest value to Erin may be as a re-

assuring touchstone.

When she was a girl, Erin's favorite book was *Imogene's Antlers*, by Michigan writer and illustrator David Small. Small also won the Caldecott Medal, in 2001. He has this to say about its effect on his life: "If I had to put the whole thing into one sentence I'd say—without irony—that winning the Caldecott immediately cleared up whatever professional insecurities I previously suffered from! It continues to be a source of encouragement and hope in my most doubtful moments—and we all have 'em, no?"

Erin has those doubtful moments. Phil, her friends, and Wednesday have all been treasured supports. But now she has the Caldecott, too.



The distinctive illustrations that won the 2011 Caldecott Medal are a soft blend of woodblock and pencil. It took Erin Stead more than two years to create them, a time span in which she and her husband, Phil, lived in four different houses—two in Willow, New York, and two in Ann Arbor.

The Zingerman's Times

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February 2011

Printed in Ann Arbor

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National Magazine to Expose Zingerman's Business "Secrets"

NEW YORK CITY—Inc. magazine reported today that they have gained access to Zingerman's "confidential" documents on building a great business and will publish them in the February issue. Zingerman's declined to comment on the leak but did suggest that all the "secrets" are available in Ari Weinzweig's new book *Zingerman's Guide to Good Leading, Part 1: A Lapsed Anarchist's Approach to Building a Great Business*, available at every Zingerman's business and online at www.shop.zingtrain.com.

More Leaks from Zingerman's?

Companies Coast to Coast are Adopting Zingerman's Business Practices. Is it Corporate Espionage?

Business leaders from all over cite Zingerman's as the model to create a sustainable business prompting some to wonder how the information was obtained. "We shared it with them," confesses ZingTrain's founder Maggie Bayless. "In our 2-day ZingTrain seminars we're happy to walk anyone through the lessons we've learned over 30 years." Sources say the upcoming Zingerman's Experience seminar, Mar. 21-22, offers a great introduction to Zingerman's methods (including the 12 Natural Laws of Business outlined in Ari's new book) and is filling fast. Forward-thinking leaders are calling 734.930.1919 or logging on to zingtrain.com to reserve a spot.

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Zingerman's Creamery gelato maker Josh Miner finally went off the deep end delivering no fewer than seven chocolate-inspired treats across Ann Arbor in February. Creamery insiders say this was inevitable. "He's crazy about chocolate. I can't believe he restrained himself this long," notes cheesemaker and Creamery owner John Loomis.

Joining Zingerman's regular line-up of chocolate flavors, which includes a **Dark Chocolate gelato** rated **Best in Michigan** by *Metro Detroit* are Josh's **Rocky Ride** featuring both chocolate and vanilla marshmallows handmade at Zingerman's Bakehouse mixed in with Virginia peanuts, **Chocolate Balsamic Strawberry**, **Turtle** (with Argentinian dulce de leche), and **Chocolate Cherry Sorbet** with Traverse City cherries.

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Restaurant Reviews

Frita Batidos

Eve's blooming riot

As a fan of Eve Aronoff's elegant eponymous restaurant in Kerrytown, I kept an eager eye on her casual new place, Frita Batidos, during months of construction delays. Peering through gaps in the brown-papered windows on West Washington, I watched walls brighten and long white picnic tables line up. I'd heard that the menu was to be high-concept but simple fare, Cuban inspired but creatively interpreted. Yet I still wasn't prepared for the novelty, spice, and even emotion this narrow space could radiate during its first cold winter weeks.

The Observer's January Marketplace Changes column detailed the backstory behind Aronoff's new labor of love (find it on arborweb.com), and this month's updates her January decision to close her Kerrytown restaurant (see p. 31). So let's get straight to highlights from Frita Batidos's namesake food groups:

The fritas: Spicy sandwiches on pillow-y house-made brioches, these are like sliders, but bigger and more substantial. Shredded whitefish, black bean, turkey, and chorizo sausage fritas are slightly crumbly patties flavorfully bound by luscious lemony or peppered mayo. The ground beef frita is pure, lean Sparrow Meats ground round, smeared with chili mayo for cool heat. A blanket layer of shoestring fries is standard on all fritas. (Dieters can omit them, and can even substitute lettuce wraps for the brioche, but they'll miss a really good bun.) You can further temper the spiciness with cheese, runny egg, coleslaw, or mild lime salsa for a buck each—or all four toppings for \$3, if you want to go loco.

The batidos: These thick fruit, coconut, or mocha shakes come with a stand-up straw and a paper umbrella. I found the sour orange scrumptious, like a designer Creamsicle. Lighter drinks were also tempting, especially the bracing brewed ginger root, sweetened and served in a plastic bag knotted around the straw, just as it might be on a blistering Caribbean beach. Inside the bag is a floating lime wedge to squeeze before each slurp.

It can get even better. A friend and I lucked into a quiet night early on, when our barista proudly brought us *café con leche* and stayed to talk while we admired the foamy swirls of rich milk, butter(!), and coffee. (Zingerman's Coffee roasts it with Honduran beans that eve staffers have a stake in.) The tropical salad was one of the few items that didn't come on a banana-leaf "plate." Made of fresh local greens and red radicchio in a smoky citrus vinaigrette, and topped with roasted macadamia nuts, dried fruit, avocado, red onion, and a snowfall of cheese and coconut, it was a sweet and savory celebration. A savant sense guided us to a side of garlicky-sweet twice-fried plantain slices,



JOHN COPLEY

which flirted at the edge of decadence but did not surrender. "Say goodbye to fries and Caesar salad," my friend proclaimed, polishing off her new favorite pairing.

Intensive attention to detail has obviously gone into this "fast-food" menu, and the ingredients are excellent. But you may not be able to appreciate the quality if you hit a busy time, usually midday, when waiters carrying trays shout out people's names, Zingerman's Deli-style. Here, without the gentling effect of the deli's flappy-sided tent, the shouts bounce off the walls, and the noise distracts both mouth and mind from the well-orchestrated party of flavors.

If you want to avoid both hubbub and crowded communal seating, try going in a small group at a later hour, when lights are dimmer and the salsa music easier to enjoy. Or go for breakfast between 8 and 11 a.m., when the menu includes a wonderful Cuban omelet stuffed with a tangy *pica-dillo* of ground beef, green olives, yellow raisins, and twenty-one more ingredients (order the Cuban sloppy joe and you'll get the same mix on a brioche). There are amazing *churros* on the morning menu and as dessert all day, but you'll need a group to consume the sinful trio of cruller-thick, cinnamon-crust, orange-flavored golden fried pastries. Order a cup of viscous chocolate to dip them in if you dare. (Imagine Washtenaw Dairy donuts gone to heaven—or somewhere else where calories don't count.)

Fritas and batidos are offered through lunch and dinner to closing, as are side dishes. Dressing-drenched tropical coleslaw got mixed reviews from my companions, especially when they encountered strips of slippery mango amidst the crispy cabbage. Exotic conch fritters were pretty good, though doughy. I wouldn't pick them over the "best snack ever": smooth, well-cooked black beans and rice. Called "Moors and Christians" in some Latin American countries, this dish also answers to "comfort food."

I liked the custom coffee blend but felt like Goldilocks trying to order the right size. Although both good values, the *buchito* "thimble" shots were too small and tippy in their tiny plastic cups, and the colada pitcher too large for just one person. The mini-cup *cortadito* with steamed milk didn't seem worth four bucks. Finally I asked what was closest to a cappuccino and was served a midsize *con leche* without butter and salt; with or without them, it's caramelly good.

The coffee slate represents just one way old standbys are reshaped in a fever dream of flavor here. Aronoff's childhood visits to her grandparents in Miami introduced her to Cuban foods. She explains her long obsession with these dishes in a poster that hangs ceiling to floor. It's also a love letter to her restaurant team, thanking them for their contributions to the "whimsical menu."

Four of the six times I visited Frita Batidos in its first month, Aronoff herself was on hand, usually in a coat as white as the walls. She looked tired, which is not surprising considering she just launched the business, hadn't yet added the planned bar drinks, and is already reportedly reworking some menu items, like the Cuban sandwich. Here's hoping she's getting more rest now that she has just one place to run.

I'm glad I partook early and experienced the original concept. But a few changes do seem warranted—particularly to the hectic system of counter ordering, prepaying, and called-out delivering. Some people I've talked to also are bothered by the white box starkness. They might try sitting in the window upfront, at the dark-veined, honey-colored wood counter. Or they might meditate on the stylish gray flower painted on the side wall. It's similar to the restaurant's logo, but without the sky-blue petals, and my gaze wanders to it when the room gets loud. I appreciate rare blooms still evolving, and look forward to what's to come.

—M. B. Lewis



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Restaurant Reviews

Frita Batidos
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Sandwiches, \$5-\$12, salads and sides, \$4-\$10, desserts, \$4-\$8.

 Inaccessible; two front steps.

Passport

Foibles of youth

Running a restaurant is hard work. The product is perishable, the work force often uneven, the customers unpredictable. The owners can only hope that their chosen concept, menu, and décor fit the public's current mood and that their restaurant's location proves advantageous rather than detrimental. So why would anyone bother? Because when everything works—when the food comes out beautifully and swiftly, the staff performs graciously and in sync, the customers flow in and out in smooth waves, pleased and contented—no occupation is more gratifying or creative, the rush of adrenalin giving way to a satisfied glow. Finding the sweet spot where all the elements come together is the key, and some new restaurants hit it immediately while others have to work toward it. Passport, a new restaurant on the south edge of town, is still finding its way.

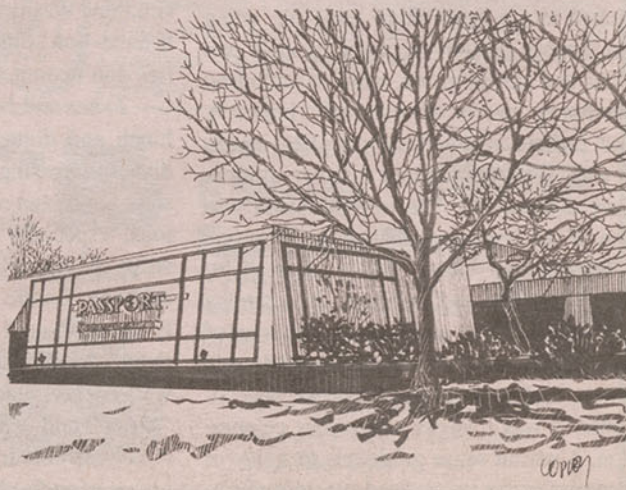
Passport is on South State, near Briarwood Mall but on the far side of I-94, with awkward access and inadequate signage. The building's exterior remains essentially unchanged from its original incarnation as a Chi-Chi's, and without that chain's neon logo it appears even more monolithic and ugly. But an attractive interior, outfitted with an Asian-accented décor of blond wood, soft, muted colors, patterned carpet and white tablecloths, belies that outward appearance. A long sushi bar anchors one side of the main room, and booths and tables are nicely spaced. Private dining rooms line another wall, and a large lounge occupies one corner.

Passport's extensive menu suggests a global concept, but the choices are primarily mish-mashed Asian fusion with occasional intrusions of Mediterranean or American regional flavors. (A large sushi selection, which we didn't try, makes up half the menu.) The culinary confusion extends to the starch sides, which change frequently. Who, for instance, thought cheddar-asparagus rice would mesh with the menu's strong

Asian bent? Fortunately, mine contained cheddar in name only and so didn't clash with the accompanying sea scallops in a ginger-orange-uni *beurre blanc*. Moreover, the scallops and julienned vegetables were nicely seasoned and perfectly cooked. This kitchen isn't afraid of salt and pepper, a fear most restaurants seem to exhibit, though food unseasoned during cooking never has the flavor it should.

The rest of that evening's dinner—on a Monday without another visitor after our arrival—proved pleasant if uneven. Our efficient and amiable waitress started us off with well-crafted cocktails and exceptional clams steamed with Thai ginger and lemongrass. Our other appetizers proved less successful. The steamed mussels were tasteless, the Bangkok spring rolls greasy and insipid, and the Mediterranean lamb chops overcooked. One friend's entrée, the "signature petite filet," had sat on the grill way too long, but when he sent it back, a new one, a perfect medium-rare, appeared, preceded by a complimentary salad. Another's medium-rare Mongolian beef tenderloin was spot-on, and the mashed potatoes that accompanied the two meat dishes couldn't have been better. The ahi tuna tataki's two sauces—a ponzu and a wasabi cream—nicely complemented the sesame seed-encrusted tuna. All of these entrées were moderately priced for their quality and portion size, ranging from \$18 for the petite filet to \$24 for the scallops. Desserts, a trio of sorbets in an almond Florentine cookie and creme brulee, satisfied but did not thrill.

At another dinner on a moderately busy Saturday, our earnest but inexperienced waiter floundered most of the evening. Our meal began inauspiciously with a trio of cocktails that were either poorly ordered by the waiter or inexpertly poured by the bartender, but appetizers helped mitigate the annoyance. This time, the kitchen cooked the Mediterranean lamb chops perfectly and they tasted delicious eaten without their confused fusion sauce. Edamame are always tasty, and Passport's are no exception, particularly with the seasoned salt. Fried too long, the Barcelona calamari (what is Spanish about this dish?), with sesame-soy and chipotle aioli dipping sauces, was dry and crispy, though the aioli was pleasant. The Sriracha aioli and ponzu sauces were equally savory, but couldn't repair the overcooked and flavorless Osaka tempura soft shell crab.



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Entrées illustrated the difficulty of maintaining food quality in a fluctuating market. That evening's Chilean sea bass tasted old, and our almond rice was the dry, crusty stuff scraped from the bottom of the pan. The Korean grilled jumbo shrimp had nice flavor, but the shrimp had been overcooked. My friend's East Coast cedar salmon was slightly underdone, as requested, though it tasted better without the accompanying Tso sauce. This time, the "signature petite filet" sliced open into a lovely medium rare, and the potato gratin alongside was luscious. The wasabi in the chocolate wasabi cheesecake was in the crust and hardly made an impact, while the filling proved crumbly rather than velvety.

The lounge offers daily attractions—drink and food specials, magic acts, dance instruction, and live music. Perhaps on this Saturday there wasn't enough lounge business to keep the magician occupied, because during our cocktails he interrupted us to pull a card trick or two. I found this intrusive, though others in the room seemed to receive his overtures more warmly.

To people working, shopping, or living in the Briarwood area, with an adventurous willingness to let a new restaurant work through the foibles of youth, Passport offers many rewards. A quiet lunch in December, for instance, featured an enjoyable chat with the friendly staff and a pad thai fettuccine that, though unlike any pad thai I'd eaten before, proved tangy and flavorful. After all, few places get everything right immediately. Time and experience bring improvement, and Passport's staff clearly has the desire and ability to make it a destination restaurant.

—Lee Lawrence

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
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table talk

Can't wait until mid-February for Girl Scout cookies? Edy's Grand Ice Cream has developed a decadent harbinger sold with a high-tech twist. Their two Girl Scout cookie-flavored ice creams—Thin Mints and Samoas—are sold January to April in local supermarkets. To find the closest fix, use the "flavor finder" application at www.edys.com, select "funflavors," and enter your zip code. Die-hard junkies can even get advance notice with the "Notify me" app. We won't tell your cardiologist if you don't tell ours.

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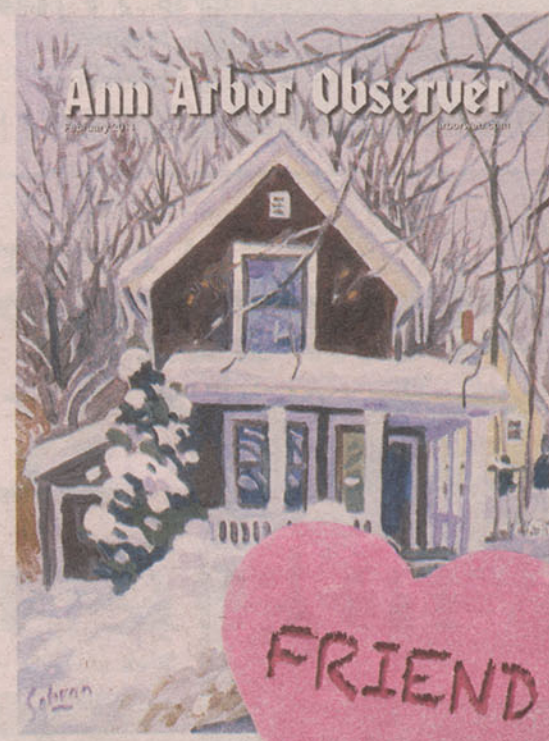
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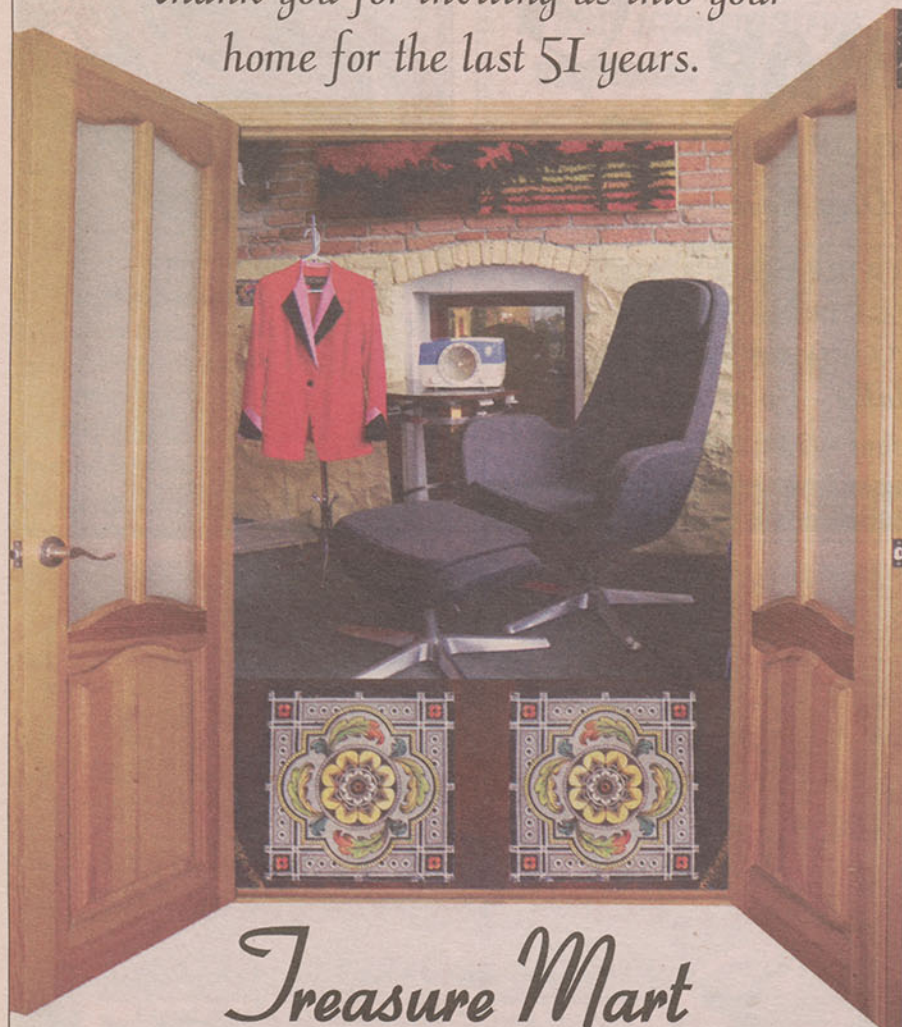
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MarketplaceChanges

by Tony McReynolds, Sally Mitani, & Jan Schlain

Advantage Sports Opens

Equipping the particular ten-year-old

After twenty-four years in computer sales, Mike Charles walked away six years ago. "My kids got good at sports," he explains, "and I got tired of missing all their [games]." He cashed out a couple of 401(k)s and used the money to buy a small company that sold sports uniforms to school teams, a job that allowed him to set his own hours. "Now I never miss a game. And that evolved into this."

"This" is **Advantage Sports**, a sporting goods and apparel store that opened in late December in the old Big George's space on West Stadium. It's owned by Charles, forty-seven, and two partners: Scott Schmunk, forty-five, a former real estate lawyer, and Scott's brother Jamie Schmunk, forty, a property manager. All three have kids who play on travel teams, which is what inspired them to open Advantage Sports in the first place.

"One day [Mike and I] got to talking about how inconvenient it was to outfit our kids for sports," Scott Schmunk recalls. "You had to go to Howell or Livonia or Novi to get decent equipment." Serious young athletes, he says, are looking for a step up from places like MC Sports. "Kids usually start playing on travel teams around age ten, and at that age they're not playing for school teams," he says. "When they're playing at that level they get particular about what they use."

In addition to high-end equipment for budding stars, Advantage Sports carries equipment for almost every major high school sport, including baseball, football, softball, basketball, lacrosse, hockey, and field hockey. Notable exceptions are swimming (although Schmunk says that's in the works), golf, and tennis. If your kids are into those sports, he notes, "there are pro shops."

Advantage has 6,500 square feet devoted to retail and another 6,000 to training, including an artificial turf area where customers can try out athletic shoes, kick a soccer



"We want to be that local sports store where people come in and hang out," says Mike Charles (right, with Advantage Sports partner Scott Schmunk).

ball, or swing a field hockey stick, and a synthetic ice surface for testing out hockey sticks and ice skates. "We want to be that local sports store where people come in and hang out," says Charles. "We want to fill that niche in the Ann Arbor area."

While they're hanging out, one topic for discussion might be how young people's experience of sports has changed over the years. "When I grew up, you played baseball in the summer and football in the fall and basketball in the winter," Schmunk recalls. "Nowadays, you play softball year

round, volleyball year round, hockey year round. Kids don't do as much multiple sports as they used to." He pauses. "It's kind of a sad thing, to be honest. I think they became better athletes when they did that. It gave them a chance to make new friends and do different things. I know I enjoyed it when I grew up."

Advantage Sports, 2019 West Stadium, 369-4944. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sun. noon-6 p.m.

Fancy Papers by the Airport

Creative Paper adds retail, cautiously.

Ann Arbor is already famous for one paper store, the astonishingly beautiful Hollander's in Kerrytown. For many tourists and locals alike, a stroll through Hollander's sheets of chiyogami beats a walk in the Arb or a night at Hill. But since 2006 Ann Arbor also has had a much grittier, no-frills paper store, a favorite haunt for artists and crafters.

The sprawling Airport Plaza industrial park that houses **Creative Papers** isn't exactly destination shopping, but it has been the incubator for some interesting retail experiments. Most famously, it's home to Zingerman's Bakehouse.

Although Creative Papers is on an even drabber block than the Bakehouse's, owner Susan Butler hasn't until now given much thought to its curbside appeal. But with Costco due to break ground nearby, probably this spring, she's anticipating more traffic in the area and has started keeping regular hours—though even when the store is officially open, you have to ring a bell for entry. That's because the state's Ann Arbor Parole Office is a few



Susan Butler bought her first fancy paper in 2001. Soon she had a garage full of it and was selling it on eBay. Now she's got a southside warehouse and store.



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Marketplace Changes

doors down. "It's never been a problem," she's quick to explain, "but I like to get a look at people before I let them in."

Once you're in, there's a small front office where she's arranged some packaged products. The rest is a 4,000-square-foot open warehouse, filled with twelve-foot shelves of handmade and other specialty papers. The few aisles that aren't crammed with paper are crammed with related supplies like dried flowers, felt leaves, ribbons, twine, and blank books.

Butler fell in love with paper in 2001. Temporarily unemployed, and at home with a small child, she wanted to make a collage and bought some fancy paper on the Internet. Soon she had a garage full of it and was selling it on eBay. By 2006 she had outgrown the garage and moved into Airport Plaza.

Most handmade papers, her specialty, come from India, Nepal, and Thailand, and are made by hand from leftovers or weeds. Talking to Butler about handmade or any other kind of paper is like opening an urgent, voluble encyclopedia with lots of hyperlinks. "In India, paper is mostly made from reclaimed cotton and denim, and in Thailand and Nepal it's made from mulberry and lokta plants—a lot of people pronounce that 'lock-ta,' but it's 'loke-ta,' by the way, not that it really matters—plants that are similar in their rampancy—" (she

pauses, wondering if she's invented the word "rampancy") "to kudzu here, and by cutting them down they're able to balance the ecosystem." Sheets of handmade paper, she adds in another aside, are generally about 20 by 30 inches, the maximum size that can be tended by a human arm span. "Sometimes people wonder why I don't sell bigger sheets, but they don't make them bigger, and that's why."

A Yale graduate, Butler dismisses her rather startling and verbose smartness with a wave of the hand. "You know, people think Yale sounds really impressive, but it's just memorization." Instead, she touts her husband, Barrett Butler, a Delta commercial pilot whose hobby is computers—he made her website—as an example of true brilliance. "He's as smart as anyone with a PhD. He understands things with a depth of knowledge I can't wrap my mind around. Obviously he's got the spatial relations thing going on, but he's got something else that's like common sense but goes way beyond it." Barrett, she says, has been flying since he was sixteen and never completed college. They now have three children and live in Pinckney.

What do people use her papers for? Handmade wedding invitations, for one thing. In fact, Butler was cutting so many custom wedding invitations that she finally bought an industrial-strength guillotine cutter with a digital gauge and laser guide, shortly followed by a die-cutter (she doesn't make her own dies—not yet

anyway) for cutting envelopes and rounded shapes like hearts.

Other uses for paper? Butler wanders down a random aisle. "This one, it's like a poster. You could frame it. And here's one from Nepal, with a wax resist. Boom! Lampshade! Here are some papers printed with ancient scripts—these are very popular. Sometimes people make necklaces from them. Not to downplay anyone's artistic talent, but a lot of these papers do half the work for you. You see a paper and the idea follows."

Creative Papers, 738 Airport Blvd. Suite 2, 961-4100. Mon., Wed., Fri. noon-6 p.m. handmade-paper.us.

Briefly noted

Lovers of Slurpees have options available at the new 7-Eleven on South State: they can slurp out, or they can slurp in. That's because unlike most 7-Elevens, which are single story and sell everything to go, this one is two stories with a forty-four-seat dining area on the second floor. There's a big TV, wi-fi, and three huge windows fronting State Street that let in plenty of light. People can carry up any food or beverage they bought downstairs, take a load off, and eat or drink (or slurp) while they study, read, or relax with friends.

Owner Linda Russ, who owns another 7-Eleven franchise in Royal Oak, hopes students will consider this one a haven. "If their dorm's too loud and they need someplace quiet to study, or if a bunch of friends want to come have a euchre tournament," Russ says, they're welcome anytime. Literally, since the place is open 24/7, 365 days a year.

Second floor aside, this looks like any other 7-Eleven you've ever been in: the familiar red, green, and orange color scheme, walls lined with beverage coolers, racks of every imaginable munchy, a selection of wrapped sandwiches, a hot and cold beverage station, hot pizza by the slice, shelves stacked with sundries, and most wondrous of all, Slurpees in eight—count them, eight!—different flavors. But there's one telltale sign you're on a college campus and not in some suburban strip mall. Most convenience stores these days have a small point-of-purchase display selling bottles of the relentlessly marketed stimulant 5 Hour Energy. The State Street 7-Eleven has a couple of shelves' worth, along with a number of clones with names like Spike and Jacked Up.

7-Eleven, 318 S. State, 913-2076.
Open 24 hours, 365 days a year. 7-eleven.com



Mosaic artist Haley Alcock was sick of driving to Lansing for stained glass and other supplies, but she didn't have much of a choice. "There were no glass shops in this area," she says. "So I got the idea of being self-sufficient by running my

own business." In early November Alcock opened the **Glass Shack Mosaic Studio**, her combination studio/gallery/supply store, above the Cloverleaf Restaurant at the corner of Liberty and Fourth.

Alcock, who at forty-one looks a little like the late actor Pete Postlethwaite reincarnated as an elfish waif with burnished cheekbones and a full head of Holly Golightly hair, first got into mosaics in 2005 after taking classes at Delphi Glass in Lansing, the same stained-glass store she finally wearied of driving to for supplies. She had her first public showings as an "emerging artist" at the 2008 and 2009 South University Art Fairs.

It's the latest career turn for Alcock, who has a BA in English from Albion, taught kindergarten in Detroit, spent two years in Lesotho with the Peace Corps, and most recently taught art at the Eastern Washtenaw Multicultural Academy, a charter school in Pittsfield Township. "I loved doing that!" she says, enough that it spurred her to go back to school to become a certified art teacher. Right now she's taking classes at Washtenaw while running her mosaic business part time.

Her selection of tools is small, but she carries the essentials needed to make stained-glass mosaics, including scoring tools and wheeled glass-nippers for separating the pieces once the glass has been scored. She stocks sheets of stained glass in sizes up to 16" x 24" and can special order larger sizes from her suppliers, which include Youghioghney, Uroboros, and Bullseye. She also offers mosaic classes to all ages, including group, private, and parent-child classes.

Glass Shack Mosaic Studio, 201 E. Liberty, Suite #23, 904-4663. Mon., Wed., Fri., 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., and by appointment. glassshackstudio.blogspot.com

Suburban Chevrolet Cadillac Saab Hummer saw some big changes in the past year. One of them was Hummer: it's gone. General Motors deep-sixed the brand after a deal to sell it to a Chinese buyer fell through. That shrank the dealership's name to **Suburban Chevrolet Cadillac Saab**. But the biggest change was a \$4 million renovation that split the dealership into two showrooms—one devoted to the middle-class Chevrolet nameplate and the other shared by the high-end Cadillac and Saab brands.

"Structurally, it's a complete redo," says general manager Mike Mosser. "Everything is new, from the service department on up." The Cadillac/Saab showroom has the elegantly retro look of a Mad Men-era New York ad agency, with imported Italian floor tiles, walnut-stained paneling, glassed-in sales offices, and a gray-and-silver color scheme. The customer waiting area has starkly stylish wood-and-metal magazine racks, marble slab tables, a full coffee bar, and wide, low-slung seating in the style of Mies van

der Rohe's iconic Barcelona chairs—all updated with the inevitable scattering of plasma TVs. The Chevy waiting room's not quite as well appointed—only one plasma TV, a somewhat less opulent coffee bar, and no marble—but has similarly clean, Ikea-esque lines.

Another innovation is what Mosser calls the Cadillac "Arts and Science Center," an interactive kiosk about the brand and its history. Cadillac considers it a very big deal and plans to install one in every Cadillac dealership. Suburban, Mosser says, was the first to get one, so GM's been sending other dealers to Ann Arbor to check it out. In January, they even hosted GM dealers from China, who took time out from the Detroit auto show for a tour.

Recent years have been hard for GM, but Suburban finished out 2010 on a high note. Mosser says sales are up across the board, including a 64 percent spike for Cadillac. He expects that trend to continue this year and estimates that Chevy will account for about 50 percent of sales, Cadillac for 25 percent, Saab for 15, and used cars for the rest.

As for Hummer, Mosser was sorry to see it go. Despite an in-your-face carbon footprint that's anathema to Ann Arbor's generally pro-green proclivities, a lot of locals bought them. "Hummer accounted for about 15 percent of our sales," Mosser said. "You'd be amazed."

Suburban Chevrolet Cadillac Saab, 3515 Jackson Rd., 663-3321. Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Fri. 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. suburbanannarbor.com

In the Works

Sharp-eyed customers at **Downtown Home & Garden** may have noticed some activity behind the store—trenches being dug, low walls going up, and most recently, a tall, elegant iron fence defining a small concrete lot. Sometime this spring, the 2,700-square-foot area will become an outdoor garden of food vendors called **Mark's Carts** (named after DTH&G owner Mark Hodesh), entered either from Washington or a passageway out the back door of Hodesh's store. Though he hasn't

entirely lined up his vendors yet, Hodesh says the idea is, for example, "steamed Asian buns or wood-fired pizzas—not hot dogs." When pressed for details, Hodesh, with low-key confidence that

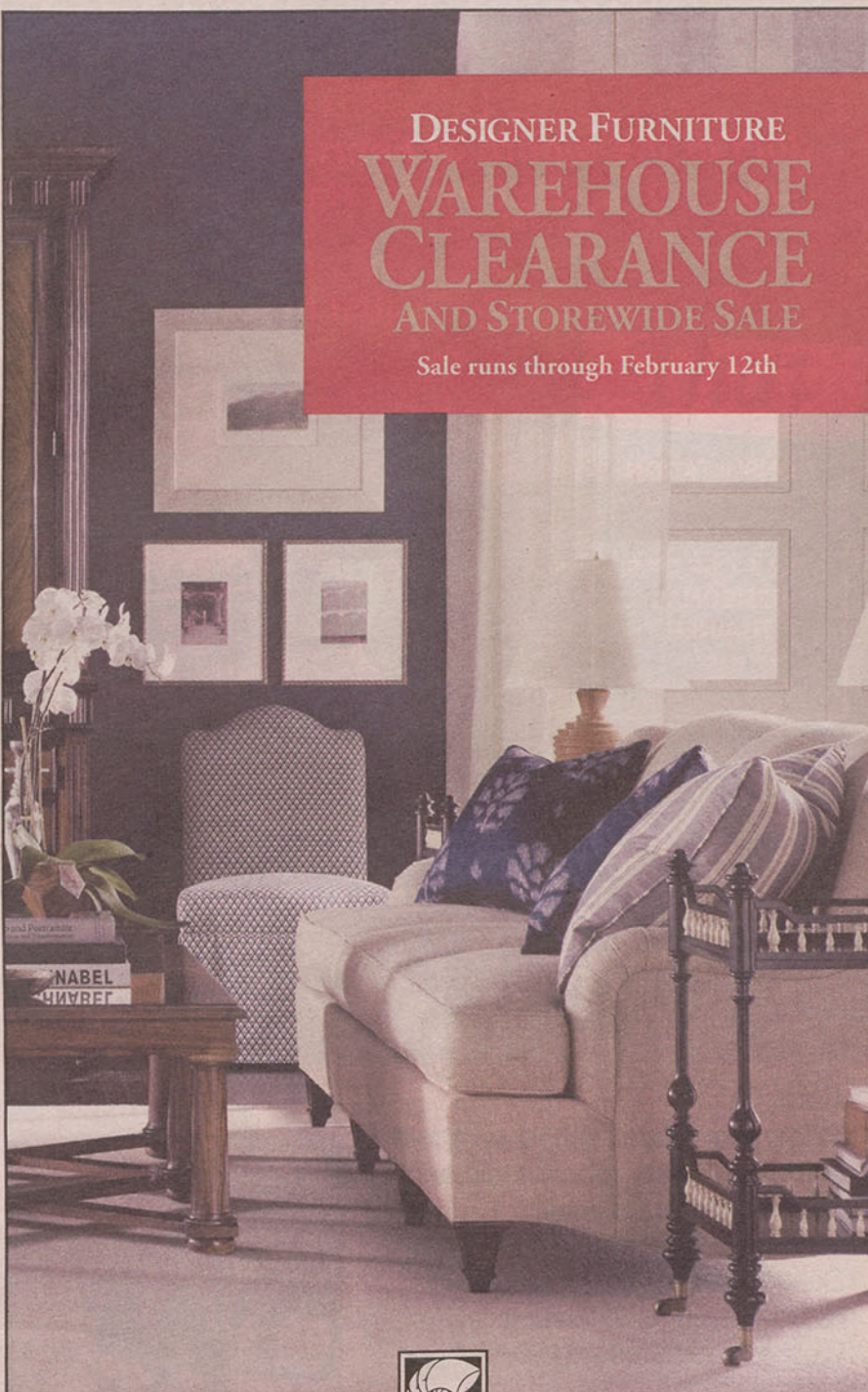
details will take care of themselves, shrugs pleasantly and says, "It will evolve."

He had originally planned to inaugurate Mark's Carts as early as March 1, seeing no reason to wait for good weather; anyone who can get food onto a cart is basically selling take-out food. A little behind schedule, he's now looking to April or May.

As spring warms to summer, he envisions a farmers' market atmosphere, with people milling around, eating and drink-



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Marketplace Changes

ing, sitting on the low walls and broad steps (yet to be built). There will probably be some tables, but nothing too formal. Hodesh has no master plan, but he promises to “protect the menu. I don’t want nine carts selling pulled-pork sandwiches.”

Hours are still to be decided, probably early morning through evening six or seven days a week, he says, though individual carts needn’t keep those hours. In addition to cart-parking space, electricity, and water, vendors will have access to a commercial kitchen in another long-dormant space he’s renovating, the old union hall on Liberty behind the DTH&G parking lot. He’s hoping that once Mark’s Carts is up and running he can also rent out the kitchen for classes and other community uses.

•••

Also in the works is Ann Arbor’s first chaat house. Ann Arbor doesn’t have any chaat houses at all, and the **Hut-K Chaat House**, under construction a few doors down from the Bombay Grocery on Packard near Platt, is not only promising chaats but also—oxymoronically if you know what chaats are—that they’ll be “guilt-free and nutritious.”

Chaats (pronounced more like “chot” than “chat”) are India’s tasty street food, often involving deep-fried dough and sugary chutneys. In recent decades, with India’s growing affluence, chaats have become something of a craze, going upscale and moving indoors to chaat houses where they’re sold along with juices and other drinks. Think coffee house with a bazillion more calories.

The Hut-K’s owner is Mahaveer Bhojani, a U-M radiation oncology research scientist. A fine cook, he has been making his own chaats for years; in his own social circle, he says modestly, he’s rather famous for them. A brush with high blood sugar a few years ago, and a lifelong concern with the relationship between diet and disease, led him to rework his mother’s recipes, using plenty of leafy greens, fresh vegetables, nuts, dried fruits, and ancient grains like millet and quinoa.

The recipes are the easy part. Bhojani and his wife, Sumi, a Montessori teacher, have been struggling for months to put a full commercial kitchen into a space that has never had one, but he has his fingers crossed for a March opening.

Closings

“We had a big [hockey] stick rack here, and they took that away,” said Dale Camfield, pointing to an empty spot in the front of **College Shoe Repair**. “We started crying, because my dad bought it—and I remember how proud he was to get the hockey stuff going here.”

Dale’s the fourth generation of the Brown family to work in the shoe repair business. Her grandfather and great-grandfather started the shop in the 1930s, and her dad, Bill, came to work there full

time at age sixteen. Bill met his wife, Dorothy, nearby at Drake’s Sandwich Shop. They married in 1951, and Dale and her six siblings all spent time behind the counter growing up.

As shoes got cheaper and repair work dwindled, they started selling hockey gear to fill the gap. But now more stores are getting into hockey, Dorothy recalled on December 31, and they weren’t “really making a good living anymore.” So New Year’s Eve was College Shoe Repair’s last day. Dale was behind the counter and her brother Pat was in the back fixing the last remaining shoes. Pat saw the closing as the latest in a long line of losses of small family businesses, like Schlenker Hardware and Ehnis & Son. It’s “just all corporate crap up here now,” he lamented. He worried that neighbor Dave Jones at White Market could be next—“that CVS [under construction on State] is gonna kill him.”

Bill Brown died last July, at age eighty-two. In December, Dale was planning to take some time, then start looking for a new job. “I’m going to work at Advantage Sports, that new sports shop on Stadium,” said Pat, finishing up a pair of shoes. “I got kinda lucky.”

•••

Just before Christmas, **Fox Tent and Awning**, a family business that opened in 1920 and spanned three generations, locked their doors, folded their tents (and awnings), and silently slipped away. “We retired,” Becky Fox says. “It was time.”

Fox and her husband, David, both in their early sixties, took over David’s family’s business in 1982. The company made and supplied tents and canopies for weddings, graduations, barbecues, and pretty much anything else important enough to warrant shelter from the elements. Their motto was, “If it’s made of canvas, we make it!”

David’s grandfather Alex Fox founded the business ninety-one years ago in Ypsilanti, moved it to its longtime Ann Arbor location at the corner of South Ashley and West Mosley in 1936, and continued to operate it until his death in 1955, when his wife, Myrtle, took over. “She was the family matriarch,” Becky says. “She controlled it until we took over.” That leapfrogged the business right over David’s father, Dwayne, who worked there most of his life but never actually owned it. Although David didn’t take it over until the early 1980s, he had worked there steadily since he was a teen, with a brief time out in the early 1970s for a hitch in the army. He and Becky met in 1972 and were married a year later.

Although the Foxes have three grown daughters, all three chose to pursue careers of their own. But it’s still possible that Fox Tent and Awning will survive in some form. Becky says they’re in negotiations with a potential buyer. If they can’t come to terms, she says, “we’ll probably just have an auction and sell the assets.”

Several generations of Ann Arborites relied on Fox for tent rentals for special occasions. While Becky sympathizes with their loss, she points out that they, at least, have other options in the area. But if you’re

looking for someone to fix a hole in your tent or sew a canvas tote for your artwork, that's another story. "There's really not anyone that does canvas repairs," Becky says. "That's the sad part. People are saying, 'Well, where are we going to go?' I feel bad about that. But we can't be here forever."

• • •

You don't really need a house to name a business "house of something-or-other." International House of Pancakes pretty much took the down-home flavor out of that title. But **House of Sofas** really was named after a house. The original furniture store, opened by Bob and Juanita Murphy in 1983, was in the old Scio Township schoolhouse (now the Ann Arbor Sewing Center on Jackson Road, its 1846 chimney still visible). Bob and Juanita were a pretty down-home couple too: their son Matt, who has run the business along with his mother since his father died in 1999, says that Bob and Juanita met, Romeo and Juliet-style, in 1960s Flint. She was a waitress (on roller skates no less, at some place like A&W, though he isn't exactly sure) from the wrong side of the tracks, and he was from a more established middle-class family. Forbidden to see each other, their romance ensued, enduring until his death. Murphy had learned the furniture business working as a salesman at Worldwide Furniture ("the Art Van of its day," says Matt), and by age eighteen he owned his own Flint furniture store.

When House of Sofas grew too big for its schoolhouse, the Murphys built the current building a few doors down, eventually expanding to 19,000 square feet and adding dining room and bedroom furniture to the sofas. But even in a better economic climate, Matt says, "it would have taken ten of me to fill my father's shoes," and he can't compete anymore with the huge marketing budgets of Art Van and Gardner-White. Their game is "selling the false discount, and we're a one-price operation." Murphy has been planning the liquidation sale, which started January 1, for the last eight months, and he's not buckling to the temptation to offer false discounts now. "Most going-out-of-business sales, they mark up the prices four times so they can offer great discounts. I didn't want to go out that way." He guarantees that "anything you've seen here is now priced lower." The store will close "when everything is gone."

• • •

A month after opening Frita Batidos (see review, p. 27), Eve Aronoff announced that she would close **Eve**, her dinner restaurant in Kerrytown, on January 16. She opened Eve in 2003. On Eve's Facebook page, Aronoff gave the reason as "unable to come to agreeable terms to re-sign our lease but will look to re-open in the right time and place in the future." And a day later, when fans questioned her real reasons, she pleaded for people to believe her: "The landlord [Kerrytown owner Joe O'Neal] didn't do anything drastic

... We just HONESTLY couldn't agree on lease terms..."

On January 11, Aronoff, bustling around Frita Batidos as if it were a normal day, elaborated: "We were in love with the space aesthetically, but it wasn't right for us." She says she sometimes would turn away "forty people a night on weekends," but with little foot traffic, she had to drop lunch last year, and even some weeknights were slow. Last year, she says, was her best yet, but it just didn't make sense to sign a new five-year lease.

The last year has not been easy for Aronoff. When interviewed in December about the opening of Frita Batidos, she was lying on a portable bed, which she said she often worked from since fracturing her sacrum last summer in Honduras. Though her nerve damage is showing signs of improvement, "they won't even accept me in a physical therapy program yet. And there I was hobbling back and forth between two restaurants."

Eve had fiercely loyal fans, but it also had its detractors. Most people agreed that Eve excelled at simple fish and steak dishes, but many had trouble understanding her complexly spiced dishes, which mixed traditional French with African, Cuban, and Vietnamese influences. And, of course, some complained about high prices—though that seems to be inevitable for any restaurant that charges more than McDonald's.

• • •

The State Street food business seems to be in a little more flux than usual lately. One State Street area merchant muttered darkly about corporate chains pushing out the small businesses, specifically directing her ire at the forthcoming CVS and the recently arrived 7-Eleven. But the sudden January closing of **Così** (part of a 100-restaurant chain) proves that even deep corporate pockets aren't immune to the vagaries of State Street economics, where the supply of hungry undergraduates remains more or less constant, but their endlessly mutating tastes are unpredictable. **Così** will be replaced by **La Marsa**, a small Tunisian-Lebanese restaurant chain out of Detroit.

Also suddenly gone is **Beyond Juice**. The juice and smoothie shop on Liberty near State closed at the end of 2009, was revived by new licensees Maureen and Michael Policella last January, and closed again at year's end. Finally, **Great Wraps** will close January 31. Wendy Shinde opened it six years ago, selling her famous Buffalo Bill wraps: "Crispy chicken, provolone, blue cheese or ranch [dressing], and lettuce wrapped in a tortilla," she recites. "Everybody loved them. But the economy is down and the landlord wants more money," she sighs, then laughs: "You know what? I've got two children who have been saying for years 'Mom, do you have to go to work? Can't you stay home today?' So now I can make them happy."

• • •

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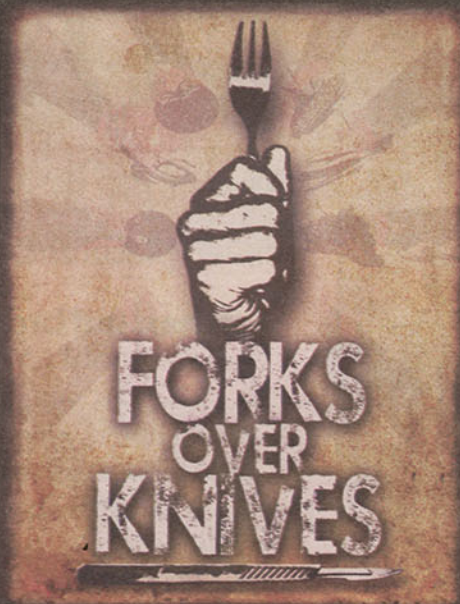
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February Events

We want to know about your event!

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- **By mail:** John Hinchey, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104
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- **After-hours drop box:** right side of the Observer's front door facing Catherine

What gets in?

We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:

All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to arborweb).

arborweb:

An expanded, continually updated version of this calendar is available at arborweb.com. This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on arborweb.

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.arborweb.com

1 TUESDAY

★**Social Bridge:** Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Tues. All seniors age 50 & over invited to play bridge. No partner required. 9:30 a.m.-noon, Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794-6250.

★**Coffee Break:** Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church. Every Tues. All women invited to study the Bible with other American and international women in small, informal groups. Bible stories and fun activities for preschoolers, and child care for babies. 9:45-11:15 a.m. & 1:15-2:45 p.m., Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church, 1717 Broadway. Free. 665-0105.

★**Winter Democratic Rides:** Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Daily. The assembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. Note: Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a phone, water bottle, tire repair supplies, and snacks. 10 a.m. (daily) & 1 p.m. (Sat. & Sun. only), meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 545-0541 (morning ride), 994-5908 (afternoon ride).

★**Preschool Storytimes:** Ann Arbor District Library. Every Tues. & Wed. Jan. 11-Feb. 23. Stories and songs for kids age 2 & up (accompanied by an adult). Note: These storytimes are also offered (through the week of Feb. 21) at the Malletts Creek (Wed., 10-10:30 a.m.), Traverwood (Tues. 11-11:30 a.m., Wed. 6-6:30 p.m., & Thurs. 10-10:30 a.m.), and Pittsfield (Thurs. 7-7:30 p.m., & Fri. 10-10:30 a.m.) branches. 10-10:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 11-11:30 a.m. (Wed.), AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★**Jewish Older Adults:** Jewish Community Center. Every Tues. Activities begin at 11 a.m. with "Energy Exercise" (\$4), a 60-minute workout led by Maria Farquhar, and at 1 p.m. mah-jongg, bridge and other card games, board games, Wii sports, and quilting and other craft projects. Also, at 1:30 p.m., Yiddish Tish, a Yiddish conversation group. Homemade buffet luncheon (\$3) available at noon. All invited. 11 a.m.-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free (except as noted). 971-0990.

★**Brown Bag Lecture:** U-M Institute for the Humanities Brown Bag Lunch. Feb. 1 & 8. Bring a bag lunch. This month's topics include "Come Back Africa (1959): From American to African and



The Austin, Texas, acoustic septet Asylum Street Spankers are at the Ark February 24 as part of their "farewell" tour.

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FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

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Through Mar. 20

Exhibit: *Celebrating 400 Years of the King James Bible*, in the Audubon Room

Through Feb. 27

Photo Exhibit: *No Agua, No Vida: The Slow Death of the Colorado River Delta* in the Gallery

EVENTS

Wed., Feb. 9

5:30-7:00 pm

"Bright Circle" documentary about Native Americans and athletics

Thurs., Feb. 10

7:00-9:00 pm

U-M Wikipedians hold first Trivia Night; join a team!

Sun., Feb. 13

2:00-3:30 pm

"The Printing of the King James Bible" with Pablo Alvarez, Curator and Outreach Librarian, U-M Special Collections Library

Wed., Feb. 16

5:30-7:00 pm

"Reading is My Window: Books and the Art of Reading in Women's Prisons," a conversation with author Megan Sweeney and Mary Heinen sponsored by the Author's Forum

Thurs., Feb. 17

4:00-7:00 pm

"Water" is the theme at the monthly Third Thursday Map Library Open House, which is held in the Gallery this month

Tues., Feb. 22

7:00-9:30 pm

"River of Renewal" video and talk by Steve Most, chronicling the conflict over the 10-million-acre Klamath River Basin, which spans the Oregon-California border

Parking for events at Hatcher Graduate Library is available at 650 S. Forest (public parking structure)

All events are **free and open to the public**. For more information about these events, and to see a complete listing of events, go to:

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FEBRUARY


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Franz Welser-Möst music director
Pierre-Laurent Aimard piano

Tue, Feb 1 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM

Bartók Music for Strings, Percussion, and Celeste, Sz. 106, BB 114 (1936)
Schumann Piano Concerto in a minor, Op. 54 (1845)
Wagner Overture to *Tannhäuser* (1845)

10/11 MAJOR ORCHESTRAS SPONSORED BY  FOREST
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FUNDED IN PART BY THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS AS PART OF
AMERICAN MASTERPIECES: THREE CENTURIES OF ARTISTIC GENIUS.
MEDIA PARTNERS WGTE 91.3 FM, WRCJ 90.9 FM, AND DETROIT JEWISH NEWS.

Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis

Wed, Feb 2 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

SPONSORED BY  KeyBank


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AMERICAN MASTERPIECES: THREE CENTURIES OF ARTISTIC GENIUS.
MEDIA PARTNERS WEMU 89.1 FM, METRO TIMES, MICHIGAN CHRONICLE,
AND ANN ARBOR'S 107ONE.

New Century Chamber Orchestra with Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg

Fri, Feb 4 | 8 PM
RACKHAM AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM

Wolf, arr. Drew Italian Serenade (1887)
Bartók/Willner Romanian Folk Dances (1915/17)
Piazzolla Cuatro estaciones porteñas
(Four Seasons of Buenos Aires) (1964-70)
Tchaikovsky Serenade in C Major, Op. 48 (1880)

SPONSORED BY  MC3

FUNDED IN PART BY THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS AS PART OF
AMERICAN MASTERPIECES: THREE CENTURIES OF ARTISTIC GENIUS.
MEDIA PARTNER WGTE 91.3 FM.

Blues at the Crossroads: The Robert Johnson Centennial Concert

Thu, Feb 10 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

This concert features Big Head Todd & The Monsters, Hubert Sumlin, Cedric Burnside, Lightnin' Malcolm, as well as David "Honeyboy" Edwards, who at 94 is the only living person to have played with Robert Johnson.

SPONSORED BY  Bank of ANN ARBOR


MEDIA PARTNERS WEMU 89.1 FM, METRO TIMES, MICHIGAN CHRONICLE, AND ANN ARBOR'S 107ONE.

Rafał Blechacz piano

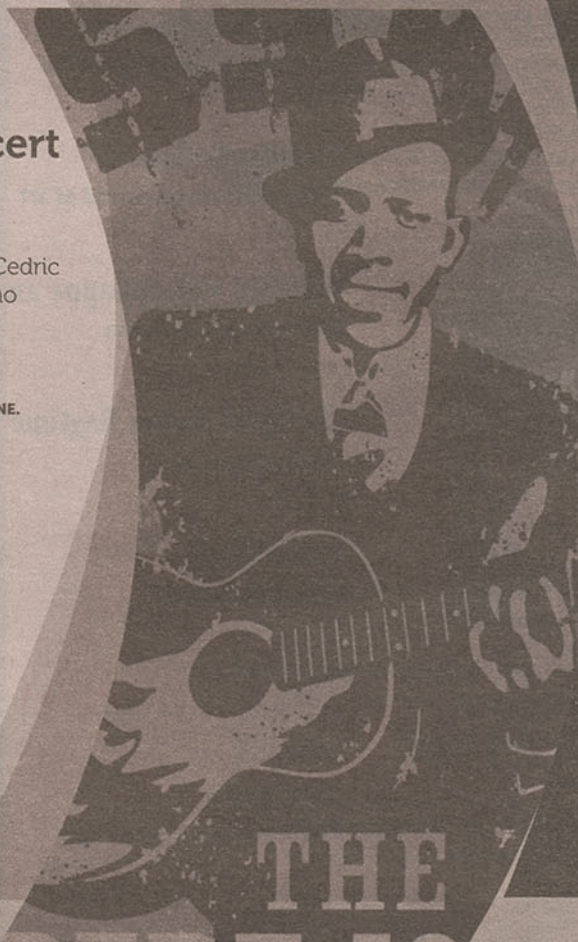
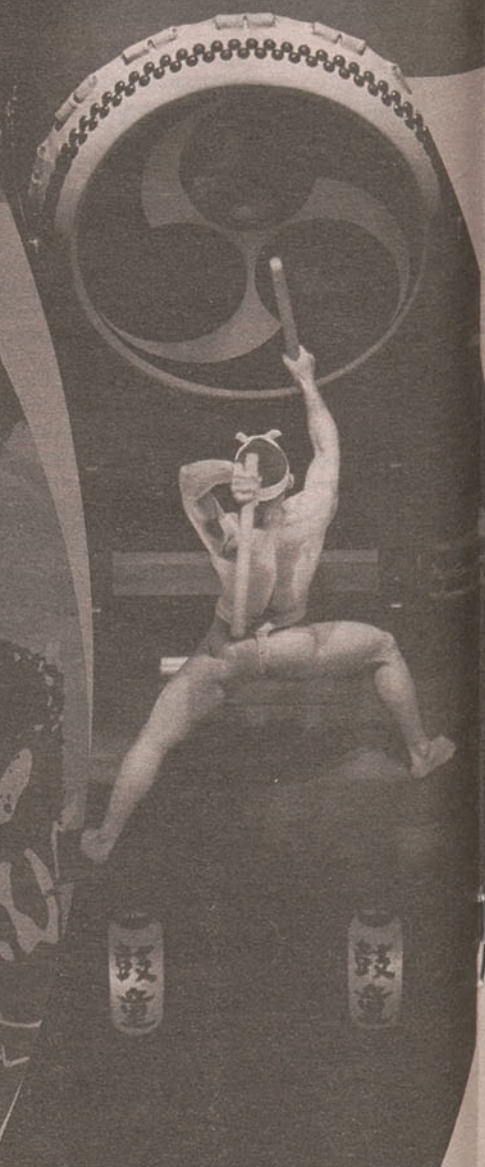
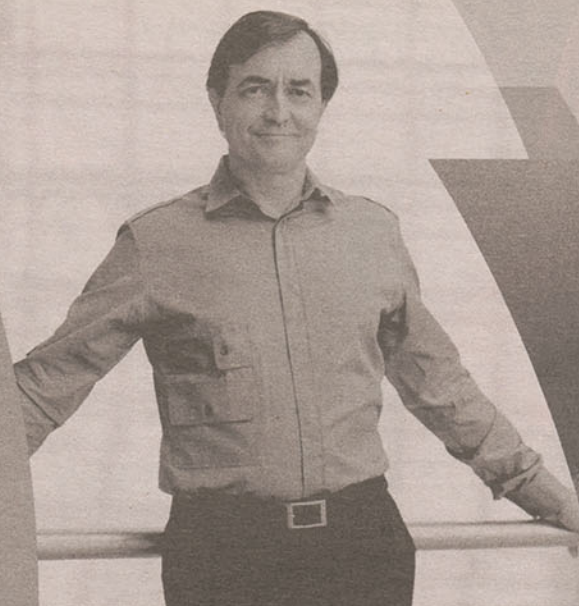
Fri, Feb 11 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM

Mozart Variations on "Lison dormait" in C Major, K. 264 (1778)
Debussy L'isle joyeuse (1904)
Szymanowski Sonata No. 1 in c minor, Op. 8 (1903-04)
Chopin Ballade in g minor, Op. 23 (1835)
Two Polonaises, Op. 26 (1835)
Four Mazurkas, Op. 41 (1838-39)
Ballade in F Major, Op. 38 (1839)

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MEDIA PARTNERS WGTE 91.3 FM, WRCJ 90.9 FM, AND DETROIT JEWISH NEWS.



132nd Season **ums 10|11**

Vijay Iyer Trio and Rudresh Mahanthappa's Apex

Sat, Feb 12 | 8 PM
POWER CENTER

This double bill brings together two of today's most interesting jazz practitioners – and the Jazz Journalists Association's 2010 Musician of the Year and Alto Saxophonist of the Year – on the same stage.

PRESENTED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE 2011 U-M JAZZ COMBO FESTIVAL.
MEDIA PARTNERS WEMU 89.1 FM AND METRO TIMES.

Concertante

Rafał Blechacz piano

Sun, Feb 13 | 4 PM
RACKHAM AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM

Elgar Serenade for Strings in e minor, Op. 20 (1892)
Schoenberg Verklärte Nacht, Op. 4 (1899)
Chopin Piano Concerto No. 1 in e minor, Op. 11 (1830)

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CANFIELD

MEDIA PARTNER WGTE 91.3 FM.

The Legacy Tour Merce Cunningham Dance Company

Fri, Feb 18 | 8 PM
Sat, Feb 19 | 8 PM
POWER CENTER

SPONSORED BY THE MAXINE AND STUART FRANKEL FOUNDATION.
FUNDED IN PART BY THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS AS PART OF
AMERICAN MASTERPIECES: THREE CENTURIES OF ARTISTIC GENIUS.
MEDIA PARTNERS BETWEEN THE LINES, METRO TIMES, AND ANN ARBOR'S 107ONE.

Schubert Cycle Concert 2 Takács Quartet

Sun, Feb 20 | 4 PM
RACKHAM AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM

Schubert String Quartet in B-flat Major, D. 112 (1814)
Schubert String Quartet in a minor, D. 804 ("Rosamunde") (1824)
Schubert String Quartet in G Major, D. 887 (1826)

National Theatre Live: Shakespeare's King Lear

High-definition broadcast by London's National Theatre
presented in partnership with UMS and the Michigan Theater
Michael Grandage director

Sun, Feb 20 | 7 PM
MICHIGAN THEATER

NT LIVE IS SUPPORTED INTERNATIONALLY BY TRAVELEX.

Kodo

Wed, Feb 23 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

Kodo unites high-energy percussion, elegant music, dance, and the striking physical prowess needed to sustain a precise yet powerful sound. Kodo's percussive fireworks reflect the ancient, complex traditions of the Japanese drum.

MEDIA PARTNER METRO TIMES.

FREE EDUCATION EVENTS

THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA:

PLAY Your Own Melody

Tue, Feb 1 | 7-8 PM & intermission
HILL AUDITORIUM LOWER LOBBY

*must have ticket to concert to attend

BLUES AT THE CROSSROADS:

American Roots/American Routes 101, Part 3: The Blues

Mon, Feb 7 | 7 PM
COBBLESTONE FARM BARN • 2781 Packard Road

ZINGERMAN'S ROADHOUSE FOODWAYS DINNER

Wed, Feb 9 | 7:30 PM

ZINGERMAN'S ROADHOUSE

*Visit zingermansroadhouse.com to purchase tickets

PLAY Your Own Blues

Thu, Feb 10 | 7-8 PM & intermission
HILL AUDITORIUM LOBBY

CONCERTANTE:

PLAY Your Own Melody

Sun, Feb 13 | 3-4 PM & intermission
RACKHAM LOBBY

*must have ticket to concert to attend

MERCE CUNNINGHAM DANCE COMPANY:

SCREENING OF "A Lifetime of Dance"

Sun, Feb 13 | 3:30 PM
HELMUT STERN AUDITORIUM
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MUSEUM OF ART

EVOLUTION OF A BRAND – Merce Cunningham Dance Company

Monday, February 14 | 5 PM
ROSS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

A LIFETIME OF CREATIVITY – Merce Cunningham and Defying Limitations

Wed, Feb 16 | 6 PM
HELMUT STERN AUDITORIUM
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MUSEUM OF ART

A LIFETIME OF INSPIRATION – UM Dance Student Responses to Merce's Story

Thu, Feb 17 | 7 PM
BETTY PEASE DANCE STUDIO (STUDIO A), U-M DANCE BUILDING
1310 North University Ct.

"DANCE BY CHANCE"

Fri & Sat, Feb 18 & 19 | pre-performance
POWER CENTER

*must have ticket to concert to attend

For complete details on the above Education Events,
please visit www.ums.org.



Call or click for tickets!

ums 734.764.2538 | www.ums.org

MON-FRI 9 AM – 5 PM, SAT 10 AM – 1 PM.

VENUE BOX OFFICES OPEN 90 MINUTES BEFORE PERFORMANCE TIME.



Michigan Council for
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February 2011 Event Highlights Ann Arbor District Library

Events will take place in the Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room, unless otherwise noted.



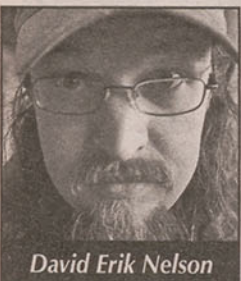
Annie Martin



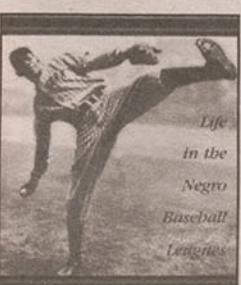
Eileen Bond



Pete Thomas



David Erik Nelson



- Wednesday 2** **Our Water, Our Future: A Local Panel** • Mike Wiley, UM School of Natural Resources, discusses the challenges and the future of our water systems with a panel of local water experts
- Thursday 3** **Black History Month Film & Discussion** • *Whatever Happened to Idlewild?* • Filmmaker Coy Davis presents his film about the famous African-American resort area in Michigan
- Saturday 5** **AA/Y Reads • Theatre Makes Life Worth Living • Purple Rose Theatre Presents a Concert Reading of Annie Martin's New Play, Exposure** • View the reading, then offer your opinion
- Sunday 6** **Comic Artists Forum: Paint With Your Computer** • Cartoonist Jerzy Drozd demonstrates image editing and coloring techniques used in comic books • GRADE 6 - ADULT • DT 3RD FL. COMPUTER LAB
- Tuesday 8** **AA/Y Reads • What Adult Learners Expect From and Understand About Literacy** • Randall Pinder explores adult literacy programs from the perspectives of learners and sponsors
- Wednesday 9** **Born To Be Wild Or Mild: Understanding Your Child's Temperament** • Eileen Bond, LMSW, University Center for the Child and Family, identifies nine characteristics of temperament, discusses children who are wild and mild, and answers questions
- Thursday 10** **AA/Y Reads • Good Health Makes Life Worth Living** • Pete Thomas, loser of 185 pounds in nine months as a contestant on NBC's *The Biggest Loser*, discusses his weight loss experience, obesity issues, and achieving a healthier lifestyle
- Friday 11** **AA/Y Reads • Education Makes Life Worth Living • Film & Discussion: Race To Nowhere (PG-13)** • This 85-minute film, a call to educators, parents and policymakers to examine current assumptions about preparing America's youth for the 21st century, will be followed by a community discussion
- Saturday 12** **The Akanni Omowale African Drum and Dance Ensemble** Celebrate Black History Month with a lively performance and audience participation! • GRADE K - 5
- Monday 14** **Is It Possible to Lower My Risk for Alzheimer's Disease?** • Kenneth M. Langa, MD, PhD, discusses the most promising ways to decrease the risk of Alzheimer's according to research data from the U.S. and other countries • MALLETT'S CREEK BRANCH
- Tuesday 15** **AA/Y Reads • Learning Makes Life Worth Living • Literacy Learners Share Their Stories** • Hear the stories and successes of local literacy learners
- Thursday 17** **AA/Y Reads • Food Makes Life Worth Living • Film & Discussion: Fresh (NOT RATED)** • This 72-minute film features the farmers, thinkers, and business people across the U.S. who are reinventing our food system • GRADE 9 - ADULT
- Tuesday 22** **Snip & Shred: Seriously Geeky Crafts!** • David Erik Nelson, author of *Snip, Burn, Solder, Shred: Seriously Geeky Stuff to Make with Your Kids*, shows kids (and parents, too!) how to make some cool geeky stuff of your own • GRADE K - 5
- Tuesday 22** **AA/Y Reads/Black History Month • Sports Make Life Worth Living • Film & Discussion: There Was Always Sun Shining Someplace: Life in the Negro Baseball Leagues (NOT RATED)** Director Craig Davidson leads the discussion after the film

For more information, call 327.4200 or visit our website at aadl.org

Back Again" (Feb. 1) and "On the Genesis of Creole Languages: Linguistic Variation and the Genetic Origins of the Founding Populations" (Feb. 8). For details, see lsa.umich.edu/humin. Noon-1:30 p.m., 202 S. Tayer, room 2022. Free. 936-3518.

★**Noon Lecture Series: U-M Center for Chinese Studies.** Every Tues. Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Free sandwiches, cookies, & coffee served. This month's topics include "Deciphering the Guodian and Shanghai Museum Bamboo Manuscripts" (Feb. 1), "Ambivalent Allies: China, Cambodia, and the Politics of Mutual Resistance" (Feb. 8), "Ways to Assess Ancient Literacy" (Feb. 15), and "Rethinking the Cultural Revolution: The Red Guards and Beyond" (Feb. 22). For details, see ii.umich.edu/ccs/events_programs/noonlectureseries. Noon-1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-6308.

★**Newcomers Coterie Club of Ann Arbor.** Talk by sixtysomethingnow.com creator Jacquie Harkema. Preceded at 11:30 a.m. by lunch (\$15; preregistration required by email to glapidus@sbcglobal.net). Coffee, tea, & dessert served for those who come for lunch. All women who have recently moved or returned to the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area are invited. 12:30 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson. Free. 879-0488.

Heidelberg Charity Poker Room. Daily. Texas Hold 'Em and blackjack for players of all levels. Also, Hold 'Em tournaments at 7 p.m. Wed., Fri., & Sat. Free dinner, 5-6 p.m., and other nightly specials. Net proceeds donated to a different charity each week. 5 p.m.-2 a.m., Heidelberg (3rd floor), 215 N. Main. \$10-\$500 buy-in to play poker. \$2-\$20 per hand blackjack, \$40 buy-in for Hold 'Em tournaments. 834-2237.

Magic: The Gathering Tournament: Get Your Game On. Every Tues.-Fri. & Sun. All invited to compete in tournaments of this popular collectible card game using standard constructed (Sun. & Thurs.), Elder Dragon Highlander (Tues.), Legacy (Wed.), and booster draft (Fri.) decks. Prizes. Bring your own cards (except Fri.). 6 p.m. (Tues.-Fri.) & 1 p.m. (Sun.), Get Your Game On, 709 Packard. \$5 (Tues., free; Fri., \$15 includes cards). 786-3746.

★**"Stitch": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Craft Night.** Feb. 1 & 15. All invited for socializing while working on their knitting, embroidery, stitching, or crochet projects. Cookies & hot tea (\$3.75 includes refills). 6:30-8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★**"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch.** Every Tues. All knitters invited to work on their projects and swap knitting tips. 6:30-8:30 p.m., location TBA. Free. 945-3035.

★**Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of *El sueño del Celta*, Peruvian novelist Mario Vargas Llosa's historical novel about Irish patriot Roger Casement and his travels to South America and Africa. 6:45 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson Rd., Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★**"California Foods": Zingerman's Delicatessen.** Owens Creek Olive Oil (Mariposa, CA) owner Walter Hewlett joins Zingerman's staff to discuss and offer taste samples of his olive oil, along with other artisanally produced foods. 7-9 p.m., Zingerman's Next Door (upstairs kids room), 422 Detroit St. \$25. Space limited; reservations required. 663-3400.

★**Common Thread Knitters Club.** Feb. 1 & 15. All knitters invited to meet members of this local knitting group and exchange tips. 7 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

★**Ann Arbor Area Writers Group.** Every Tues. All local writers invited to bring samples of their writing to read and discuss. Observers welcome. 7-9 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 665-8194.

★**Voices in Harmony Sweet Adelines.** Every Tues. All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 70-member a cappella barbershop harmony chorus. 7-9:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors (\$26 monthly dues for those who join). 480-8843.

★**English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance.** Every Tues. Historical and traditional English dancing to live music. All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat, non-slip shoes (running shoes OK). First-timers are asked to arrive at 7 p.m. 7-9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. (park on Burbank). \$7 (students, \$4; kids age 13 & under with a parent, free). 665-7704.

★**"Tuesday Night Lights": Wheels in Motion.** Every Tues. Nighttime mountain-bike rides through different local trails and parks each week. Bike lights required. 7:15 p.m., meeting location TBA. Free. 971-2121.

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club.** Feb. 1 & 15. Feb. 1: Club members TBA discuss "My Favorite Photographer." Feb. 15: Award-winning local professional

plays

Burns Park Players

Ann Arbor's Upper West Side

Twenty-some years ago, a group of Burns Park Elementary parents decided to put on a show to raise some money. Did no one tell them art is not what you do to raise money? Hello! Who put the non in nonprofit? The arts, that's who.

Against all odds, they not only made money, they had so much fun that they have done it every year since.

The Burns Park Players don't put on just regular plays, by the way, but musicals, with live orchestras, a strategy that ups the ante for catastrophic failure. And going for total insanity, they also involve dozens of elementary school students in the chorus numbers. You don't have to be a theater snob to imagine these Burns Park Players productions as fertile soil for some wickedly bad amateur theatrics—*Waiting for Guffman* bad.

But it's not like that at all. The Burns Park Players produce consistently sparkling, exuberant productions. Directed by a different U-M musical theater student every year, the productions have covered every subgenre of musical, from wheezy period oddities like *Bye Bye Birdie* (2004) to airbrushed, slick Disney fantasies like *Beauty and the Beast* (2008) and solidly golden-era Rodgers and Hammersteins like *Carousel* (2000). The sets have for years been a labor of love by Mark Tucker (creator of *FestiFools*) and artist Jeri Rosenberg. Real talent lurks in Burns Park. BP being Ann Arbor's Upper West Side, the talent is often highly trained, if overlaid by years of better-paying professional careers or parenthood. The kids—dozens of them—herded quickly on and off, usually in the chorus numbers, through some alchemy are

consistently an adorable and inspired surprise. And here's a bonus: the old-fashioned, well-spaced upholstered seats in the Tappan Auditorium are nap-time comfy.

As I write this—in February of 2010, for we think ahead here at the Observer—I've just seen the one musical I know isn't going to be produced in February 2011, a stellar production of *Guys and Dolls*. With its jazzy, complex rhythms, lyrics that make anyone sound smart



MRYA KLARMAN

and savvy, and a story line whose believability, if it ever existed, has long since disappeared into the mist, it was the perfect vehicle for hugely talented, energetic parents whose acting chops perhaps aren't 100 percent up to speed. The show was stolen, as *Guys and Dolls* usually is, by its Adelaide (Eva Rosenwald), and what she didn't steal was carried off by Lisa Harris's gorgeous voice in the quieter, sweeter role of Sarah Brown.

This year, the Players are tackling *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, and Rosenwald and Harris, who have been tag-teaming for years as female leads, have both dropped back to more minor parts; Caroline Huntoon plays Rosemary Pilkington, and Aviva Simonte is Hedy LaRue. *How to Succeed*, which opens on February 4, is set in a period newly mythologized by *Mad Men*. It's harder to love than *Mad Men* (or *Guys and Dolls*), but if a few hundred kids can't kick a little life into it, no one can.

—Sally Mitani

photographer Anne Keesor offers "Tips from a Professional Photographer." Also, club members show their recent projected images (Feb. 1) and prints (Feb. 15) on various topics, including this month's assignment, "Hills, Mountains, and Valleys." 7:30 p.m., Wines Elementary School auditorium (Feb. 1), 1701 Newport, & Forsythe Middle School media center (Feb. 15), 1655 Newport. Free. 327-4781.

★"Are Many Heads Better Than One?: Curating with, Not about, African Artists": U-M Museum Studies Program. Talk by Seattle Art Museum African and oceanic art curator Pam McClusky. 7:30 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 936-6678.

★Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Association. Every Tues. All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. 7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors (\$130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance: Greg Humbel at 445-1925.

★Treetown Community Chorus. Every Tues. All invited to join this fun-loving independent local mixed chorus to sing mostly familiar tunes, along with some serious music, in various genres. David Perampall directs. 7:30-9 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh. Free to visitors (\$80 per semester dues for those who join). (586) 504-1155.

★German Speakers' Round Table. Every Tues. All German speakers invited for conversation. 8-10 p.m., Grizzly Peak Brewing Company, 120 W. Washington. Free admission. 453-2394.

The Cleveland Orchestra: University Musical Society. Franz Welser-Moest directs this widely admired orchestra named as the world's 7th best orchestra by *Gramophone*, in a program highlighted by Schumann's Piano Concerto in A Minor, with acclaimed French pianist Pierre-Laurent Aimard.

Also, Wagner's *Overture to Tannhauser* and Bartok's *Music for Strings, Percussion, and Celesta*. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$10-\$75 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

2 WEDNESDAY

★Storytime: Waters Place Borders. Every Wed. & Fri. Borders staff read books for infants, babies, and toddlers. 10 a.m., Borders, 3140 Lohr Rd. Free. 997-8884.

★Storytime: Arborland Borders. Every Wed. & Fri. A Borders staffer reads stories and leads a craft project and sing-alongs for toddlers. 11 a.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

★U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies Lecture Series. Every Wed. Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Topics include "The Rapid Rise and Remarkable Success of Classical Arabic in the Early Islamic Period" (Feb. 2), "Siege Mentality: Alphabets and Ideology in Malta" (Feb. 9), "Colloquial Egyptian Poetry Between the Politics and Poetics of Language" (Feb. 16), and "Piety, Power, and the Rise of Armenian Literary Standards" (Feb. 23). 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., MLB Lecture Room 2, 812 E. Washington. Free. 764-0350.

★"The Taste of Ann Arbor No-Mile Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Feb. 2 & 16. Riders meet for lunch at different restaurants the 1st and 3rd Wed. through the winter. 11:30 a.m., location TBA. Free. Pay for your own lunch. 662-5052.

★Chime Concert: Kerrytown Shops. Every Wed., Fri., & Sat. All invited to play one of 100 songs, with melodies transcribed in numbers, on the 17-bell chime's numbered keys. Ambitious players can add chords. Local chimemaster Heather O'Neal demon-

strates. Noon-12:30 p.m. (Wed. & Fri.) & 10:30-11 a.m. (Sat.), Kerrytown. Free. 369-3107.

★Brown Bag Lecture Series: U-M Center for Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies. Feb. 2 & 9. Bring a bag lunch. Feb. 2: U-M anthropology lecturer Noah Coburn discusses "Potters and Warlords in an Afghan Bazaar: Violence and Political Mobilization in Afghanistan Today." Feb. 9: Duke University history professor Anna Krylova "A Portrait of a Soviet Woman as the Citizen Soldier." Noon-1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-0351.

ACBL Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Mon., Wed., & Thurs. All seniors age 50 & over invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. Bring a partner. 12:45-4 p.m. (Mon. & Wed.), noon-3 p.m. (Thurs.), & 7-10:30 p.m. (Mon.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$7 (members, \$6). 794-6250.

★Chess: U-M Turner Senior Resource Center. Every Wed. All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. 1-4 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

★"Speak Truth to Power": U-M Center for Ethics in Public Life Delta Gamma Lecture. Talk by veteran human rights activist Kerry Kennedy, author of *Speak Truth to Power: Human Rights Defenders Who Are Changing Our World*. 4 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Free. 615-4260.

★U-M Center for Korean Studies Lecture Series. Feb. 2, 9, & 16. Talks by visiting scholars on "Changing Environments: Ecological Devastation and Modern Korean Literature" (Feb. 2), "Farewell at Kimpo Airport: On Postcolonial Modernity in the South Korean Popular Imagination" (Feb. 9), and "Victimhood Nationalism: Competing for a Historical Position of Victim in a Battle of Memory" (Feb. 16). 4 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-1825.

★Eric Cantor: U-M School of Public Policy. This Virginia congressman, the current House Majority Leader, discusses the Republican legislative agenda and how his party intends to deal with the Obama administration. 4-5:30 p.m., 1120 Weill Hall, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 647-4091.

★Scrabble: Ann Arbor Scrabblers. Every Wed. All invited to play this popular word game. Bring a set if you have one. 5-8 p.m., Arbor Brewing, 114 E. Washington. Free. 994-0084.

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. Every Wed. All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early. 7-11 p.m., Walden Hills clubhouse, 2114 Pauline west of Maple. (Park in the designated spaces in the lot on the north side of Pauline.) \$6 per person. 623-8050.

Contact Improv. Every Sun. and Feb. 2 & 16. All invited to try this interactive, free-form dance style that involves a rolling point of contact between two or more people through which dancers give and share weight. It is somewhere between tango, modern dance, aikido, wrestling, gymnastics, and none of the above, and usually takes place without music. People do contact improv in any combination of genders, and there are no steps. No partner required; beginners welcome. Followed by discussion and socializing. 7-9 p.m. (Wed.), SOMA studio, 218 N. Fourth Ave. (above People's Food Co-op), & 1-3 p.m. (Sun.), Phoenix Center, 200 S. Main (above Elmo's). \$5-\$10 sliding scale based on ability to pay. 604-4416.

★"Our Water, Our Future: A Local Panel": Ann Arbor District Library. Panel discussion with Washtenaw County water resources commissioner Janis Bobrin, Ann Arbor water treatment services manager Molly Wade, Ann Arbor environmental coordinator Matt Naud, Ann Arbor waste water treatment manager Earle Kenzie, and Huron River Watershed Council executive director Laura Rubin. Moderated by U-M natural resources professor Mike Wiley. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★Izzeldin Abuelaish: Michigan Theater Foundation/Nicola's Books. This Palestinian physician, known as "the Gaza Doctor," discusses *I Shall Not Hate*, his best-selling memoir about his loss of 3 daughters and a niece to Israeli shelling and the continuing devotion of his life to the reconciliation of Palestinians and Israelis. Signing. 7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 668-8397.

★Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club. All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. 7:30-10 p.m., Michigan Central depot, 3487 Broad, Dexter. Free. 426-5100.

★History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to join a discussion of *The Book in the Renaissance*, Andrew Pettegree's new history of the political and economic circumstances surrounding early publishing. 7:30-9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

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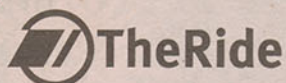
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Attend a Community Forum

January 31	Manchester Village Offices	6-8pm
February 1	A2 District Library-Downtown	6-8pm
February 2	Dominos Farms	5-7pm
February 3	Ypsilanti Library-Whittaker Rd.	6-8pm
February 4	Washington St. Ed Center-Chelsea	8-10am
February 7	Washtenaw Community College	11am-1pm
February 7	SPARK East	6-8pm
February 8	A2 District Library-Pittsfield	11am-1pm
February 8	Saline City Hall	6-8pm
February 9	EMU Student Center	11am-1pm
February 9	Dexter Township Hall	6-8pm
February 10	Manchester Village Offices	9-11am
February 10	Carpenter School	7-9pm
February 14	SPARK Central	11am-1pm
February 16	SPARK East	9-11am
February 16	A2 District Library-Malletts Creek	6-8pm
February 21	Milan Senior Center	6-8pm
February 22	Northfield Township Hall	9-11am
February 22	Chelsea Library	6-8pm
February 23	Dexter District Library	6:30-8:30pm



"Corktown": Purple Rose Theatre. Every Wed.-Sun., Jan. 20-Mar. 5. World premiere of Michael Brian Ogden's heartbreaking yet hopeful dark comedy about an extraordinary day in the life of a Detroit mobster who finds love under the most-violent and dangerous circumstances. *Note:* the Feb. 13 performance is preceded at 4 p.m. by a **Valentine's Party Benefit** (\$200 in advance by calling 433-7782) with dinner, dancing to the **Dave Bennett Band**, and appearances by **Jeff Daniels** and other prominent local people. 3 & 8 p.m. Purple Rose, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Jan. 20-23, 26, & 27 preview tickets: \$20 (Wed. & Thurs.), \$25 (Fri. & weekend matinees), & \$30 (Sat. eve.). After Jan. 27: tickets \$25 (Wed. & Thurs.), \$35 (weekend matinees & Fri. eves.), \$40 (Sat. eves.) in advance at purplerosetheatre.org and by phone. 433-7673.

Wynton Marsalis & Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra: University Musical Society. Pulitzer Prize-winning composer-trumpeter Marsalis leads the orchestra in everything from rarely performed historic compositions to newly commissioned works to new takes on jazz standards. Regarded as the finest large jazz ensemble performing today, these musicians play with "tight intensity and real swing," says a music-web-international.com reviewer of a 2007 concert. "They relish dynamic changes and shifts in tone, bringing the music to life with technical mastery the original bands could seldom muster." 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$10-\$54 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Every Wed. Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). \$5 in advance and at the door. 996-9080.

Open Dancing: Swing Ann Arbor. Every Wed. Swing dancing to prerecorded music. No partner needed. Bring casual or nicer shoes that stay on your feet when you're active. Preceded by intermediate swing (7 p.m.) and beginning swing (8 p.m.) lessons. 9-11 p.m., Michigan Union U-Club (Feb. 2 & 9), Ballroom (Feb. 16), & Pendleton Room (Feb. 23). \$5 (students, \$4). 945-8428.

"Juke Box Jungle": Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. Every Wed. Conor O'Neill's staff member Brian Aherne hosts a music trivia quiz. Prizes. 9-11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. \$3 team fee. 665-2968.

3 THURSDAY

★Social Mah-Jongg: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Mon. & Thurs. All seniors age 55 & over invited to play. 10 a.m. (Thurs.) & 1 p.m. (Mon.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794-6250.

★Thursday Lunch Bunch: Jewish Community Center. Every Thurs. A weekly program of activities primarily for seniors. The program begins at 10 a.m. with "Energy Exercise" (\$4), a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. An 11 a.m. Current Events discussion group led by Heather Dombey is followed at noon by a homemade dairy lunch (\$3 with reservation, \$4 without reservation and for non-seniors) and at 1 p.m. by a cultural or educational program. Feb. 3: Program on "Hawaii." Feb. 10: EMU Jewish Studies director Martin Shichtman discusses "Irving Berlin's 'God Bless America.'" Feb. 17: A U-M nutritionist discusses "Nutritional Supplements." Feb. 24: U-M FestiFools director Mark Tucker shows and discusses some of the puppets he has designed. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

★U-M Center for Japanese Studies Noon Lecture Series. Every Thurs. Lectures by U-M and visiting scholars. Topics: "The Future of Regional Liquidity Arrangements in East Asia: Lessons from the Global Financial Crisis" (Feb. 3), "Civic Engagement in Postwar Japan" (Feb. 10), "Dining and Daydreaming in the Edo Period" (Feb. 17), and "Censorship During the Occupation Period" (Feb. 24). Noon-1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 763-4301.

★Gifts of Art: U-M Hospitals. Every Thurs. Performances by local musicians. Feb. 3: U-M Music Students. Feb. 10: Romantic classical violin and piano works by Winnick & Wong. Feb. 17: Blues, gospel, and storytelling by Robert & Bernice Jones. Feb. 24: Folk-rock by Souls Alike. 12:10 p.m., U-M Hospital lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936-ARTS.

★"Conversations on Europe": U-M Center for European Studies. Feb. 3 & 17. Talks by visiting scholars. Feb. 3: Prominent Greek journalist Gazmend Kapllani discusses "The Balkan Sight of the Mediterranean (or the Unbearable Similarity of the Other)." Feb. 17: University of Toronto political science professor Jeff Kopstein on "Intimate Violence: Popular Anti-Jewish Riots in Occupied Poland." 4-5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647-2743.

"Rush Hour Relief": Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. Every Thurs. Whole Foods staffers discuss wine. Tastings with small plates of food. Topics: "Sauvignon Blanc" (Feb. 3), "Tuscan Red Wines" (Feb. 10), "California Red Blends" (Feb. 17), and "Wines of Argentina" (Feb. 24). Also, Michigan beer tastings (5-7 p.m.) with representatives from Original Gravity Brewing Company (Feb. 4) and Dark Horse Brewing Company (Feb. 18). 5-8:30 p.m., Whole Foods wine bar, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. \$17. 997-7500.

★U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Lecture Series. Feb. 3, 10, & 17. Talks by visiting artists. Feb. 3: "Strategies of Performance: Scene and Unseen," a talk by Nick Cave, a fabric sculptor, dancer, and performance artist best known for his "Soundsuits" that rattle with the wearer's movements. Feb. 10: "Rendering the Invisible." Photographer David Maisel discusses his large-scale otherworldly photos of environmentally damaged sites. Feb. 17: Ford Motor Company design vice president J. Mays on "Three Things That Matter." 5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 647-2337.

★Board Game Night: Get Your Game On. Every Thurs. All invited to bring a game to play or try one of the store's. 6 p.m., Get Your Game On, 709 Packard. Free. 786-3746.

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Penn State. The U-M also has games this month against Illinois (Feb. 6, 2 p.m.), Indiana (Feb. 16, 7 p.m.), and Minnesota (Feb. 24, 7 p.m.). 7 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$3 (youths under age 18, \$1; U-M students with ID, free). 764-0247.

Team USA Under-18 vs. Tri-City (Midland). The older of the 2 Ann Arbor-based USA Hockey national development teams plays this U.S. Hockey League rival. Team USA Under-17 has matches this month against Muskegon (Feb. 18) and Chicago (Feb. 19). 7 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. at Scio Church Rd. \$12 (seniors, students, & children, \$6; kids under 5, free). 327-9251.

Euchre Night: Out Loud Chorus Fund-Raiser. All invited to compete in a euchre tournament. 7 p.m., CUBS' AC in Colonial Lanes, 1950 South Industrial. \$10. 973-6084, 663-0036.

ACBL Bridge: Ann Arbor City Club. Every Thurs. All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. 7 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. \$5. 761-6691.

★Ann Arbor Go Club. Every Sun. & Thurs. Players of all skill levels invited to play what's regarded as the world's most difficult board game. No partner necessary. Boards and stones provided. 7 p.m.-midnight (Thurs.) & 1-6 p.m. (Sun.), Espresso Royale, 322 S. State. Free. 417-5547.

★Huron Hills Lapidary and Mineral Society. Screening of a video on "The Geology of the Alps." 7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church social hall, 900 S. Seventh St. Free. 665-5574.

Thursday Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Every Thurs. Dancing to live music. No partner needed; beginners welcome. Bring flat, clean, nonmarking shoes. 7-10 p.m., 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). \$7 (students, \$4; kids age 13 & under with a parent, free). 408-1018.

"Little Women: The Broadway Musical": Encore Musical Theatre Company. Every Thurs.-Sun., Feb. 3-20. Steve DeBruyne directs this local professional company in Allan Knee, Jason Howland, and Mindi Dickstein's 2005 musical adaptation of Louisa May Alcott's beloved novel about 4 sisters growing up in Concord (MA) during the Civil War. Cast TBA. 7 p.m., Encore, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. Tickets \$28 (members & seniors, \$25; groups of 10 or more, \$22) in advance at theencoretheatre.org and at the door. 268-6200.

★"Prelude to a Kiss": U-M Basement Arts. Feb. 3-5. Elizabeth Frankel directs Craig Lucas's romantic comedy about a young bride who gives a mysterious old man a friendly kiss that causes their souls to switch bodies. 7 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Studio 1, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. basement.studentorgs.umich.edu.

"(un)Corked—The Regal Wines of Piedmont": The Produce Station. Tastings of 5 wines from the Piedmont region of Italy. 7:30-8:30 p.m., Alley Bar, 112 W. Liberty. Tickets \$10 at tinyurl.com/22rfzla. 663-7848.

Ann Arbor Ski Club. Feb. 3 & 17. All invited to learn about the club's downhill and cross-country ski and snowboarding outings and other social activities. Followed by a game night (Feb. 3) and a **Valentine's Day dance** (Feb. 17). Refreshments. Must be 21 or older. 7:30 p.m., Cobblestone Farm barn, 2781 Packard. \$5. 786-2237.

Israeli Dancing: Jewish Community Center. Every Thurs. Dance instructor Cheryl Felt and DJ Amnon Steiner lead a variety of Israeli dances to recorded music. Easy dances and oldies the first hour followed

Note: Most educational documentaries are listed with the daily Events.

Ann Arbor District Library. FREE. 327-4555. AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave.

Feb. 3: **"Whatever Happened to Idlewild"** (Coy Davis, 2006). Documentary about the history of this resort area in rural northwestern Michigan that during the segregation era was one of the few resorts in the country where African Americans could vacation and purchase property. Followed by a discussion with filmmaker Davis. 7-8:30 p.m.

Feb. 11: **"Race to Nowhere"** (Vicki Abeles, 2009). Documentary about the social and personal costs of the middle-class obsession with competitive academic achievement. Followed by discussion. 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Feb. 17: **"Fresh"** (Ana Joanes, 2009). Documentary about the movement to establish an alternative to the modern industrial-oriented system of food production. Followed by a discussion led by U-M Community Scholars Program faculty and students. 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Feb. 22: **"There Was Always Sun Shining Somewhere: Life in the Negro Baseball Leagues"** (Craig Davidson, 1989). James Earl Jones narrates this award-winning documentary about the Negro Baseball Leagues. Followed by a discussion with the director. 7-8:30 p.m.

Ann Arbor Docu Fest. Screening of a different documentary film every Mon. FREE. 929-9979. Café Ambrosia, 326 Maynard, 7 p.m.

Feb. 7: **"Gasland"** (Josh Fox, 2010). Award-winning documentary about communities that have been severely harmed by a new method of natural gas drilling.

Feb. 14: **"Astro Turf Wars: How Corporate America Faked a Grassroots Revolution"** (Taki Oldham, 2010). Documentary expose of the financing of the Tea Party.

Feb. 21: **"Tulsa, Texas"** (Cassandra Herrman & Kelly Whalen, 2008). Documentary about the controversial drug sting that resulted in the arrest of 46 mostly African American men in a small Texas town.

Feb. 28: **"Esoteric Agenda"** (Ben Stewart, 2008). Documentary about a conspiracy by a global power elite to destroy democratic society.

Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. \$5 suggested donation. 327-0270. 704 Airport Blvd., 8 p.m.

Feb. 19: **"Spiritual Cinema."** Screening of **For the Next 7 Generations** (Carole Hart, 2009), a documentary about a council of indigenous female elders from around the globe brought together by their concern for the state of the world and all living in it. Followed by discussion.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Unless there is a live show in the main theater, 2 or 3 different films are shown, usually twice, almost every night. For complete, updated schedules, see michtheater.org or call 668-TIME. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): \$9 (children, students, seniors, & veterans, \$7; MTF members, \$6.50; Wed., \$6). Michigan Theater, times TBA unless otherwise noted.

Jan. 28 & 30 and Feb. 1 & 2: **"Today's Special"** (David Kaplan, 2009). Comedy about a young Manhattan chef who rediscovers his heritage when he quits his job at an upscale restaurant and takes over his family's Indian restaurant. Aasif Mandvi.

Feb. dates TBA: **"Another Year"** (Mike Leigh, 2010). A happily married older couple are surrounded by unhappy friends and family.

"Rabbit Hole" (John Cameron Mitchell, 2010). Drama about a happy young couple whose lives are turned upside down when their young son dies. Nicole Kidman, Aaron Eckhart, Dianne Wiest.

"Somewhere" (Sofia Coppola, 2010). Drama about a Hollywood actor who reexamines his life after his 11-year-old daughter pays him a surprise visit. English & Italian, subtitles.

"Biutiful" (Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, 2010). Drama about a single dad who makes his living as a middle man on the Barcelona black market and reluctantly accepts payment for his psychic ability to communicate with people who have recently died. Javier Bardem. English & Spanish, subtitles.

"The Illusionist" (Sylvain Chomet, 2010). Animation about an aging unemployed French illusionist who meets a young fan who changes his life.

"Barney's Version" (Richard Lewis, 2010). Drama about a blunt, impulsive, 65-year-old hockey fan and TV producer who reflects on his life's successes and numerous failures. Paul Giamatti.

Feb. 6-10: **"Vision: From the Life of Hildegard von Bingen"** (Margarethe von Trotta, 2009). Biopic about the 12th-century German nun who was a composer and religious visionary. German & Latin, subtitles.

Feb. 7: **"The Gold Rush"** (Charlie Chaplin, 1925). Timeless Chaplin silent comedy pitting the Tramp against the Yukon. Highlights include eating a shoe, the dance of the rolls, and a cabin teetering over a cliff. Also, **A Dog's Life** (Charlie Chaplin, 1918), an early Chaplin silent in which the Tramp and a dance hall singer (Edna Purviance) are helped to a better life by a dog. 7 p.m.

Feb. 8: **"Forks over Knives"** (Lee Fulkerson, 2010). Documentary examining the claim that most degenerative diseases can be controlled by adopting a diet that excludes animal-based and processed foods. Preceded at 5:45 p.m. by a reception and followed by a discussion led by Rip Esselstyn, author of the best-selling *The Engine 2 Diet*. \$10 in advance at any Whole Foods and at the door. 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 11 & 13-17: **Oscar Nominated Short Films.** Screenings of the 2010 animated and live action short films nominated for an Academy Award.

Feb. 12: **"The Way I See It"** (2009). Documentary about extreme skiers with footage of daring tricks. Sponsored by the U-M Screen Arts & Cultures Department. Tickets \$15 in advance at ticketweb.com. 8 p.m.

Feb. 13: **"Honey, I Shrunk the Kids"** (Joe Johnston, 1989). Adventure comedy about a scientist whose children get the short end of one of his inventions. Rick Moranis. Regular ticket prices, except kids 12 & under, free. 1:30 p.m.

Feb. 14: **"City Lights"** (Charlie Chaplin, 1931). Chaplin stars in what many regard as his masterpiece, the story of a man whose attentions are divided between an off-again on-again friendship with an alcoholic millionaire and his love for a blind flower girl. 7 p.m.

Feb. 21: **"The Circus"** (Charlie Chaplin, 1928). Chaplin's Tramp proves to have no talent for intentional comedy when he's hired as a circus act. Also, **Sunnyside**, a 1918 short featuring Chaplin as a hotel handyman. 7 p.m.

Feb. 28: **"The Pilgrim"** (Charlie Chaplin, 1923). Chaplin is an escaped convict who finds himself in a small town where he is mistaken for a parson. Also, 2 other Chaplin films, **A Day's Pleasure** (1919), a 25-minute comedy about a man's day outing with his wife and kids, and **Shoulder Arms** (1918), a 46-minute comedy set in France during WWI. 7 p.m.

Projectorhead. FREE. 615-0445. Lorch Hall Ask-with Auditorium (Feb. 4, 11, & 18), 611 Tappan and U-M North Quad Dining Hall (Feb. 17, 19, & 20) 105 S. State, various times.

Feb. 4: **"I Was Born But..."** (Yasujiro Ozu, 1932). Silent Japanese film about a family's financial and psychological troubles. With live narration by U-M film professor Markus Nornes. Followed by a performance by the local ensemble of avant-folk toy instrumentalists **Little Bang Theory**. The band also performs during a screening of **The Mascot**, Wladyslaw Starewicz's 1933 animated silent film. 7 p.m.

Feb. 11: **"The Abyss"** (James Cameron, 1989). Spectacular underwater saga about an oil-rig crew on a mission to rescue a sunken nuclear sub. Ed Harris, Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio. 7 p.m.

Feb. 17: **"Herb and Dorothy"**. Documentary about postal clerk Herb Vogel and librarian Dorothy Vogel, a NYC couple who built a huge contemporary art collection with their modest income. 8 p.m.

Feb. 18: **"A Woman Under the Influence"** (John Casavettes, 1974). Unnerving drama about an L.A. housewife who's admitted to a psychiatric ward after displaying strange behavior. Gena Rowlands, Peter Falk. 7 p.m.

Feb. 19 & 20: **"West of the Tracks"** (Wang Bing, 2003). A 9-hour film that documents the slow demise between 1999 and 2001 of a Chinese industrial district that was once a vibrant example of the socialist economy. The film has 3 parts, **Rust** (Feb. 19, 11 a.m.-2:45 p.m.), **Remnants** (Feb. 19, 3:30-6:30 p.m.) and **Rails** (Feb. 19: 8-10:15 p.m. & Feb. 20, 3-5:15 p.m.)

Slow Food Huron Valley. FREE. migoodfood-filmfestival.blogspot.com. WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr., 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 28: **"Michigan Good Food Film Festival."** Screening of the top 10 short films submitted to this juried competition that highlights student and community documentaries about food.

Temple Beth Emeth "Movie Tuesday." FREE. 665-4744. 2309 Packard, 1 p.m. Followed by discussion (tentative). Snacks. Child care available with advance notice.

Feb. 15: **"The Band's Visit"** (Eran Kolirin, 2007). Comic drama about an Egyptian brass band made up of members of the police force that goes to Israel to play at the opening of an Arab arts center and finds itself lost in the wrong town. Arabic, English, Hebrew; subtitles.

U-M Center for Chinese Studies. Chinese Documentary Film Series. FREE. 764-6308. Angell Hall Auditorium A (entrance at the Fishbowl on the east side of the bldg.), 7:10 p.m. Mandarin, subtitles.

Feb. 12: **"The Train to My Home Town"** (Ai Xiaoming, 2008). Documentary about migrant workers on their way home for the Spring Festival who are stranded at a railway station by a major snow storm.

Feb. 19: **"Before the Flood II"** (Yan Yu, 2008). Documentary about the human cost of the construction of the world's largest hydroelectric dam in the Three Gorges region of the Yangtze River.

U-M Center for European Studies Mediterranean Film Series. FREE. 647-2743. 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University, 4 p.m.

Feb. 10: **"I, the Other"** (Mohsen Melliti, 2007). Drama about 2 fishermen friends who go into business together, one Sicilian and the other a Tunisian who has been living in Italy for 20 years. A radio announcement during a fishing excursion causes conflict, exposing religious and cultural differences that erupt into a brutal fight that shatters their friendship. Italian, subtitles.

U-M Center for Russian, Eurasian, & East European Studies. FREE. 764-0351.

Feb. 22: **"Afghan Star"** (Havana Marking, 2009). Documentary about 4 contestants in the Afghan equivalent of *American Idol*. Pashto & Dari, subtitles. Michigan Theater, 7 p.m.

U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies. FREE. 764-0352. 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University, 4 p.m.

Feb. 1: **"Laskar Pelangi"** (Riri Riza, 2008). Adaptation of Andrea Hirata's novel about a group of 10 schoolboys who struggle with poverty on a farming and mining island off the coast of Sumatra. Indonesian, subtitles.

U-M Japanese Animation Film Society. U-M campus admission policy: No one under 18 admitted without an adult. FREE. umichanime.com. MLB, 812 E. Washington at Thayer, 10 a.m.-midnight.

Feb. date TBA: **"Animania."** Monthly anime-a-thon of feature films and episodes from Japanese TV series.

U-M LS&A Water Theme Semester Film Series. FREE. 763-4191. Shapiro Science Library (unless otherwise noted), 919 South University, 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 1: **"The Water Front"** (Liz Miller, 2007). Documentary about the public resistance to a water privatization scheme in Highland Park (MI).

Feb. 8: **"Waterlife"** (Kevin McMahon, 2009). Documentary that follows the water of the Great Lakes as it makes its way to the Atlantic Ocean.

Feb. 15: **"End of the Line"** (Rupert Murray, 2009). Documentary about the devastating effects of over-fishing.

Feb. 22: **"River of Renewal"** (Carlos Bolado, 2008). Documentary based on Stephen Most's book about the challenges of balancing economic and ecological concerns in the Klamath River Basin in Oregon and California. Followed by a Q&A with Most, who also introduces the film. 100 Hatcher Grad Library, 913 South University, 7 p.m.

UMMA. FREE. 764-0395. UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State, 3:30 p.m.

Feb. 13: **"Merce Cunningham: A Lifetime of Dance"** (Charles Atlas, 2001). Documentary about the late revolutionary modern dance choreographer. In conjunction with the Merce Cunningham Dance Company performances on Feb. 18 & 19 (see listings).

U-M Spectrum Center. FREE. 763-4186. Trotter Multicultural Center (tentative), 1443 Washtenaw, 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 20: **"Camouflage."** Documentary-style drama about a 19-year-old from Harlem who deals with promiscuity, drugs, and violence as he tries to figure out what to do after high school. Followed by a talk by director (and U-M grad) Rod Gailes.

WCBN-FM. FREE admission. 763-3500. Arbor Brewing Company (114 E. Washington), 8:30 p.m.

Feb. 9: **"Flash Gordon"** (Alex Raymond, 1980). Campy adaptation of the sci-fi comic strip. With a soundtrack by Queen.

program highlighted by *Diddley Daze*, a work by the renowned modern dance and theatrical choreographer Dianne McIntyre set to the music of the late rock 'n' roll pioneer Bo Diddley. Also, a work by the seminal avant-garde choreographer Merce Cunningham and new group works by U-M dance professors Sandra Torrijano, who premieres a dance



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February 3 4 5

Michael Somerville

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VH1 "40 Greatest Pranks"
"Stand Up or Shut Up"
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February 10 11 12

Kemi Louise

Valentine's Weekend

"The Oprah Winfrey Show"
"The Montel Show"
NBC's "Last Comic Standing"
HBO "Aspen Comedy Festival"
and more!!



February 17 18 19

Mark Sweeney

Comedy Central
HBO
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February 24 25 26

Vince Morris

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"Late Late Show"
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***"Water and Ice in the Andes: A Century of Climate Change, Glacier Disasters, and Hydro-**

Social Conflicts": U-M Exhibit Museum. Talk by U-M history professor Mark Carey. 7:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764-0478.

"Dancing Americas": U-M Dance Company. Feb. 3-6. This U-M dance-student company presents a

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to the public.

For complete
details visit
www.lsa.umich.edu/humin,
call 734.936.3518,
or email humin@umich.edu.

Lectures

2/23 — Marc and Constance Jacobson Lecture
by **Marjorie Garber**, English, Visual and
Environmental Studies, Harvard University
"After the Humanities"; 6pm, Rackham
Amphitheatre, 915 E. Washington

In the Gallery

Exhibits are held in the Institute for the Humanities
gallery, 202 S. Thayer. Gallery hours: M-F 9am-5pm

1/24-3/16 — "White Nights," an exhibition
of original photographs and snow globes by
Walter Martin and Paloma Muñoz

Author's Forum

Author's Forum events are held in the Hatcher Graduate
Library, 913 S. University, Library Gallery, room #100,
at 5:30pm.

2/16 — Author's Forum presents: *Reading is My Win-
dow: Books and the Art of Reading in Women's Prisons*.
A Conversation with **Megan Sweeney** and **Mary Heinen**

Brown Bag Lectures

Brown Bag Lectures are held at 202 S. Thayer, room
#2022, at noon.

2/1 — **Litheko Modisane**, University of Capetown, U-M
Presidential Scholar; "Come Back Africa (1959): From
America to Africa and Back Again"

2/8 — **Marlyse Baptista**, Afroamerican and
African studies; "On the Genesis of Creole Languages:
Linguistic Variation and the Genetic Origins of the
Founding Populations"



examining the shared spirit underlying Latin Ameri-
can dance and music cultures, and **Melissa Back-
Matijas**, whose *First in Flight* explores the human
love affair with being airborne. 7:30 p.m., *Power
Center*. Tickets \$18 & \$24 (students, \$10) in advance
at the Michigan League and at the door. To charge by
phone, call 764-2538.

★**Stephen Shippy & Joseph Gramley: U-M School
of Music**. Performances by violinist Shippy and per-
cussionist Gramley, both U-M professors. 8 p.m.,
U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits
Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

"The War Since Eve": **Performance Network
Professional Season**. Every Thurs.-Sun., Jan. 13-
Feb. 13. David Wolber directs the premiere of Royal
Oak playwright Kim Carney's drama about a bawdy
women's rights pioneer and feminist icon with 2
grown daughters who is forced to choose between
sisterhood and motherhood. Stars Henrietta Herme-
lin. 8 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron.
\$39 & \$41 includes reception. After Jan. 21: \$27 &
\$29 (Thurs.), \$32 & \$34 (Fri. & Sun.), \$25 & \$27
(Sat. matinee), \$39 & \$41 (Sat. eve.). \$3 discount for
seniors age 60 & over. Tickets available in advance
at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the
door. \$10 student discount in advance, half-price stu-
dent tickets at the door only. For reservations, call
663-0681; to charge by phone, call 663-0696.

"Corktown": **Purple Rose Theatre**. See 2 Wednes-
day, 8 p.m.

**Michael Somerville: Ann Arbor Comedy Show-
case**. Feb. 3-5. Ann Arbor debut of this young stand-
up comic, a droll, self-deprecating observational
humorist with a slacker's temperament who's best
known as the author of the *Glamour* magazine dat-
ing column *Jake: A Man's Opinion*. Preceded by 2
opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., 314 E. Lib-
erty (below Seva restaurant). \$7 (Thurs.) & \$10 (Fri.
& Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$9 (Thurs.)
& \$12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door.
996-9080.

4 FRIDAY

★**"Kinderconcert: Music and Motion": Ann Ar-
bor District Library**. Local early childhood educa-
tor Gari Stein, director of Music for Little Folks, and
Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra artistic director Arie
Lipsky lead kids from babies through age 5 (accom-
panied by an adult) in a program that includes story-
telling and dancing to live music. Participants also
learn about the instruments. Accompanist is pianist
Kathryn Goodson. 9:30-10 & 10:30-11 a.m., AADL
multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave.
Free. 327-8301.

★**U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies Lec-
ture Series**. Feb. 4 & 11. Talks by visiting scholars
on "Shaming the State: Pop Preachers, Psikologi
Islami, and the Anti-Pornography Campaign in
Indonesia" (Feb. 4) and "National Religion' and
Its Others in Colonial Vietnam" (Feb. 11). Noon-
1:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free.
764-0352.

14th Annual Sphinx Honors Concert. Three young
string musicians from around the country perform
in the semifinals of this national competition for
over \$100,000 in prizes that supports young African
American and Latino classical musicians. The finals
are held Feb. 6 in Detroit. Noon, Rackham Audito-
rium. Free. (313) 877-9100, ext. 709.

★**Bridge: U-M Turner Senior Resource Center**.
Every Mon. & Fri. All seniors invited to play bridge.
Refreshments. 1-3 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd.
Free. 998-9353.

★**Winter Carnival: Chelsea American Legion
Post 31**. Feb. 4-6. Three days of competitive ice
fishing, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and
other winter fun at Cavanaugh Lake. Also, a **euchre
tournament** (\$5 entry fee; prizes) on Feb. 4 at 7 p.m.
and a **chili cook-off** (2 p.m.) and **dancing** to classic
and contemporary rock by the Manchester band **Star
69** (8:30-11:30 p.m.) on Feb. 5. The weekend fish-
ing derby begins at 7 a.m. on Feb. 5. Refreshments,
breakfasts, and light lunches available. Raffle. 4
p.m.-midnight (Feb. 4), 7 a.m.-midnight (Feb. 5), &
7 a.m.-3 p.m. (Feb. 6), American Legion Hall, 1700
Ridge Rd. (off Cavanaugh Lake Rd. from Kalmbach
Rd. north from I-94 exit 156), Chelsea. Free admis-
sion. To enter the chili cook-off, call Larry Doll at
260-1540. 475-2775.

★**"Borders and Boundaries in Cities": U-M Taub-
man College of Architecture and Urban Planning**.
Talk by New York University sociology professor
Richard Sennett. 6:30 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama
Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North
Campus. Free. 764-1300.

★**AXIS Coffeehouse: Ann Arbor District Library**.
Every Fri., Jan. 7-Feb. 11. All kids in grades 6-12
invited to perform their own poetry or monologue,
or a favorite by another writer, or just to sip a hot
drink and listen. 6:30-8 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek

Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School
& Packard). Free. 327-4200.

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All in-
vited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joy-
ous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual
traditions. 7-9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420
Hill. \$5 requested donation. 332-7964.

★**"Prelude to a Kiss": U-M Basement Arts**. See 3
Thursday, 7 & 11 p.m.

"Rock 'n' Roll Skate": **Ann Arbor Parks & Rec-
reation "Funky Frosty Friday"**. All invited to wear
rock gear and skate to AC/DC records. 7:15-8:45
p.m., Buhr Park Ice Rink, 2751 Packard. \$6 (youths
age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & over, \$5). \$1
discount for city residents. Skate rentals available
(\$3). 761-7240.

Greenhills School Voodoo Theater Company. Feb.
4 & 5. Greenhills students direct each other in plays
TBA. 7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center
for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. Tickets
TBA. 769-4010.

"It Came from Mars": **Pioneer High School The-
atre Guild**. Feb. 4 & 5. Aaron Moore directs Pioneer
students in local playwright Joseph Zettelmaier's
off-the-wall play about a group of radio actors—a
washed-up director, his diva ex-wife, a wannabe war
hero, and a German sound effects whiz—terrified
by Orson Welles' War of the Worlds broadcast. The
students performed it at the Michigan Interscholastic
Forensic Association one-act play competition.
Tonight's performance includes set up, which was a
component of the competition. 7:30 p.m., PHS Sch-
reiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium at Main. \$6 at the
door only. 994-2191.

"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Try-
ing": **Burns Park Players 27th Annual Produc-
tion**. Feb. 4, 5, & 10-12. See review, p. 41. Burns
Park Elementary School students, parents, and
friends—a group cited by former *Ann Arbor News*
drama critic Chris Potter as one of the best theater
groups in town—perform Frank Loesser's 1961 mu-
sical farce about an ambitious young man who sets
out to climb the corporate ladder. By learning to play
the game, he quickly rises to the top, taking his faith-
ful secretary along with him. The score includes the
songs "A Secretary Is Not a Toy," "I Believe in You,"
and "Brotherhood of Man." Proceeds benefit chil-
dren's cultural arts programs. These shows almost
always sell out, so get tickets early. Note: A Feb. 3
dress rehearsal is open to the public (7:30 p.m., \$5
at the door only). 7:30 p.m., Tappan Middle School au-
ditorium, 2251 E. Stadium at Brockman. Tickets \$15
in advance at Morgan & York (1928 Packard) and (if
available) at the door. \$30 patron tickets available in
advance by emailing colleenkollman@aol.com or by
calling 478-0449. 662-0798.

"Dearly Beloved": **Skyline High School**. Feb. 4 & 5.
Anne-Marie Roberts directs Skyline students in Jessie
Jones, Nicholas Hope, and Jamie Wooten's comic dra-
ma, set in small-town Texas, about the hapless efforts
of 3 adult sisters to redeem their social histories as one
of them drives herself nuts with elaborate preparations
for her daughter's antebellum-themed wedding. Cast:
Freida Steiner, Porter Morgan, Angie Goulet, Brittany
Roulo, Josh Preissle, Hannah Steinberg, Brett Robin,
Mario Merola, Jonathan Jue-Wong, Willa Johnson.
7:30 p.m., Skyline High School, 2552 N. Maple. Tick-
ets \$8 (students, \$6) in advance at showtix4u.com and
at the door. 994-6515.

"Wiley and the Hairy Man": **Huron High School
Players**. Feb. 4, 5, 11, & 12. Brian Carbine directs
Huron students in a theatrical adaptation of this folk-
tale about a scary hairy man who lives near a swamp
and the young boy who must outsmart him 3 times.
7:30 p.m., Huron High Little Theatre, 2727 Fuller
Rd. Tickets \$8 (students & seniors, \$6) in advance
and at the door. 994-2095.

★**Advanced Study Group: Rudolf Steiner Study
Circle of Ann Arbor**. Feb. 4 & 18. All invited to
join an ongoing discussion of Rudolf Steiner's *How
to Know Higher Worlds*. Familiarity with Steiner's
basic ideas required. 8-9:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner
House, 1923 Geddes. Free. 944-4903.

★**"All-American": U-M Symphony Band**. Michael
Haitcock conducts this music student ensemble and
the **Donald Sinta Saxophone Quartet** in American
classics by Gershwin, Ives, and Sousa, as well as the
world premiere of new works by local Pulitzer Prize-
winning composer William Bolcom. U-M music pro-
fessor Michael Daugherty, and Joseph Schwantner.
Preceded at 7:15 p.m. in the lower lobby by a talk by
Bolcom and Daugherty about their compositions. 8
p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0594.

★**EMU Symphony Orchestra: EMU Music De-
partment**. Kevin Miller conducts this music student
orchestra in Barber's *School for Scandal Overture*
and Dvorak's Symphony no. 7. Also, 2010-11 EMU
Concerto Competition winner Brian Young is the
soloist in his *Near Symphony: A Concertino for Ma-
rimba*. 8 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at
College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

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New Century Chamber Orchestra: University Musical Society. This San Francisco ensemble, led by the acclaimed violinist **Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg**, is known for its fresh presentation of classical works. Tonight's program is highlighted by Piazzolla's tango-inspired *Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*. Also, Wolf's *Italian Serenade*, Bartok's *Romanian Folk Dances*, and Tchaikovsky's *Serenade in C Major*. 8 p.m., *Rackham Auditorium*. Tickets \$24-\$50 in advance at the *Michigan League* and *ums.org*, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

Matthew Endahl & Tim Cohen: Canterbury House. Jazz by the local duo of pianist Endahl and drummer Cohen. 8 p.m., *Canterbury House*, 721 E. Huron. \$10 (students, \$5). 764-3162.

"It's Always Funny in Follydelphia": U-M Business School B-School Follies. Feb. 4 & 5. Musical comedy revue by U-M business school students. 8 p.m., *Michigan Theater*. Tickets \$20 in advance at the business school Executive Residence lounge, \$25 at the door. *stanwoldt@umich.edu* 668-8397.

"An Evening of Scenes": U-M Residential College Players. Feb. 4 & 5. RC students direct and perform this popular semiannual 90-minute program of short scenes on a variety of topics and in a variety of styles, many written by RC students. 8 p.m., *RC Auditorium, East Quad*, 701 East University. Free. 647-4354.

"Dancing Americas": U-M Dance Company. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Little Women: The Broadway Musical": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The War Since Eve": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Corktown": Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Michael Somerville: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 3 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Swing Dance Party: Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association/Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Every Fri. Lindy hop, East Coast swing, Charleston, blues, and Balboa dancing spun by a DJ. No partner needed. Preceded at 8 p.m. by beginning lessons. 9 p.m.-midnight, *Dakota Bldg.*, 1785 W. Stadium. \$5 (includes lessons; students with ID, \$3). 417-9857.

5 SATURDAY

Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Feb. 5, 12, & 19. Presented by park naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck. Feb. 5 (8 a.m.): **"Bird Hike."** Bring binoculars and a field guide. Feb. 12 (1 p.m.): **"Better to Eat You With."** Hands-on program exploring what we can learn about animals' diets from their skulls and teeth. Feb. 19 (1 p.m.): **"On the Trail of the White Tail."** A leisurely hike to learn about and look for signs of the white-tailed deer. Various times, *Hudson Mills activity center*, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. \$2 unless otherwise noted. Preregistration required. \$5 vehicle entrance fee. 426-8211.

"Stem Cell Research": Gray Panthers of Huron Valley. Talk by U-M Taubman Research Institute director Martin Fischhoff. Discussion follows. Refreshments. The program begins with coffee & socializing. 9:45 a.m.-noon, *U-M Turner Senior Resource Center*, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 973-5593.

"Hot Chocolate": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. All kids accompanied by a parent invited to make chocolate treats and learn about the history of chocolate. 10 a.m.-noon, *Matthaei*, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. \$5 (includes Conservatory admission). Preregistration required. 647-7600.

"Downtown Home & Garden Lecture Series." Feb. 5 & 12. Feb. 5: Beekeepers Pat Murphy and Bob McLeod—"the bee guys"—discuss **"Backyard Beekeeping."** Feb. 12: DH&G owner Mark Hodesh, who founded the Fleetwood Diner in 1972 and cooked 500,000 eggs there in three years, shows **"How to Cook a Perfect Egg."** The demo includes over easy, straight up, scrambled, and poached. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., *DH&G*, 210 S. Ashley. Free. 662-8122.

"Saturday Morning Physics": U-M Physics Department. Feb. 5 & 12. Popular series of talks, aimed at general audiences, by U-M faculty. Feb. 5: Physics professor Aaron Leanhardt on **"A Brief History of Telling Time."** Feb. 12: Geological sciences professor Henry Pollack on **"Ice and Water."** Part of the U-M LS&A Water Theme Semester. 10:30 a.m., 170 Dennison, 500 Church. Free. 764-4437.

"Exposure": Ann Arbor District Library. Purple Rose Theatre artistic director Guy Sanville directs a concert reading of local playwright Annie Martin's new drama that Purple Rose is considering for production. It's about a travel writer with an intense fear of flying forced to undergo treatment with a novice therapist. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., *AADL multipurpose room (lower level)*, 343 S. Fifth Ave., at William. Free. 327-4555.

"Storytime at the Museum": UMMA. Feb. 5 & 19. U-M student docents read stories related to the art on display. For kids ages 4-7, accompanied by a parent. 11 a.m., *UMMA*, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★Storytime: Nicola's Books. Every Sat. An experienced storyteller spins yarns for kids age 7 & under. On Feb. 12, *Clifford the Big Red Dog* drops in after Storytime. 11 a.m., *Nicola's*, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble. Every Sat. and Feb. 21. Storytelling programs and craft activities for kids. 11 a.m., *Barnes & Noble*, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

U-M Exhibit Museum Planetarium. Every Sat. & Sun. and Feb. 21 & 25. Four different audiovisual planetarium shows. *The Sky Tonight* (11:30 a.m. Sat. & Feb. 21 & 25, 1:30 both weekend days & Feb. 21 & 25, 3:30 p.m. both weekend days) is an exploration of the current night sky. *Black Holes* (12:30 p.m. Sat.) is an animated show that begins with the formation of the early Universe and the birth and death of stars and concludes with a simulated flight to a supermassive black hole lurking at the center of the Milky Way. *Oasis in Space* (2:30 p.m. both weekend days) about the Earth, its water resources that make life possible, and its place in the solar system. *Zula Patrol* (12:30 p.m. on Feb. 21 & 25 only) is an animated exploration of weather, both terrestrial and interplanetary. 11:30 a.m. and 12:30, 1:30, 2:30 & 3:30 p.m., *Exhibit Museum*, 1109 Geddes at North University. \$5. 764-0478.

Draw Doubles: Local 101 Disc Golf Club. Every Sat. All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson Mills Metropark's 24-hole courses. Beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Discs can be borrowed at park office. Noon, *Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center*, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. \$7 per player; free for spectators. \$5 vehicle entrance fee. 449-4300.

"Professor Ray's Everyday Science": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. Feb. 5, 6, 26, & 27. Museum staffers give family-friendly science demos. Feb. 5 & 6: **"Mind over Matter"** includes experiments with extreme states of solids, liquids, and gases. Feb. 26 & 27: **"Chem Mystery"** offers experiments using everyday items to create chemical reactions. 1 & 3 p.m., *AAHOM*, 220 E. Ann. \$9 regular admission (members & infants, free). 995-5439.

★"Political and Social Expressions in Art": UMMA. Feb. 5, 13, 19, & 27. Docent-led tour of works in the museum that address political and social issues. 1 p.m., *UMMA*, 525 S. State. Free. 763-UMMA.

Waterloo Natural History Association. Feb. 5, 12, & 19. Feb. 5: **"Winter in Waterloo."** Naturalist-led walk to look for animal life and learn to identify trees in winter. Feb. 12: **"Animal Magic."** Educational entertainment by magician and animal rescuer Mark Rosenthal, who is assisted by live animals. Feb. 19 (1-4 p.m.): **"Family Ice Fishing and Bonfire."** All invited to watch an ice-fishing demo or try it yourself. Followed by a bonfire with hot cocoa, marshmallows to roast. 2 p.m. unless otherwise noted, *Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot*, Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. \$2 (families, \$5). Space limited; preregistration required. \$10 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475-3170.

★Dinosaur Tours: U-M Exhibit Museum. Every Sat. & Sun. 30-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. 2 p.m., *Exhibit Museum*, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour. 764-0478.

★"Out of the Ordinary: Selections from the Bohlen Wood Art and Fufeld Folk Art Collections": UMMA. Feb. 5 & 20. Docent-led tours of the current exhibit. 2 p.m., *UMMA*, 525 S. State. Free. 763-UMMA.

★"Imbolc Ritual": Druids of Shining Lakes Grove. All invited to celebrate this ancient Celtic late winter festival of light and the earth's hidden fertility, which honors the hearth goddess Brid. Also, a potluck (bring a dish to pass) and a raffle. Preceded by a hearth-fire kindling rite at 7 p.m. on Feb. 4 at 263 Larkspur (east off Skydale, off Pontiac). 2-5 p.m., *Friends Meetinghouse*, 1420 Hill. Free. 277-1897.

★Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club. Every Sat. All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. Indoor location TBA in case of inclement weather. 2-4 p.m., *U-M Diag*. Free. 761-1115.

★Michael Koryta: Aunt Agatha's. This award-winning young mystery writer, a former award-winning reporter for the *Bloomington Herald-Times* who also works as a private investigator, discusses his brand-new paranormal thriller, *The Cypress House*. Signing. 2 p.m., *Aunt Agatha's*, 213 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 769-1114.

★Pittsfield Open Band: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Feb. 5 & 19. All musicians invited for a contra dance music open jam. Bring Judi Morningstar's *The Ruffwater Fakebook*,

Russian Romance

Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra
Conductor Arie Lipsky

Piano Roman Rabinovich

Glinka: *Ruslan and Ludmila Overture*

Rachmaninoff: *Piano Concerto No. 3 in D minor, Op. 30*

Prokofiev: *Symphony No. 5 in B-flat major, Op. 100*

March 12, 8:00 PM
Michigan Theater

Ticket Information:
734/994-4801
www.a2so.com

Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra | Ann Arbor, Michigan | www.a2so.com

FAMILY OF FREEDOM Presidents and African Americans in the White House



Ken
Walsh

Sunday, February 20
2:00 p.m.

Join author and 2008 Gerald R. Ford Journalism Award winner, Ken Walsh as he discusses his newest book *Family of Freedom*.

Just released, the book examines the intertwined relationships between the presidents and the African Americans who have been an integral part of the White House.

FREE Admission • FREE Parking
Open Seating
Book signing and reception will follow talk.

At the corner of Beal Ave. and Fuller opposite VA Hospital

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library



1000 Beal Ave.
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
(734) 205-0555

www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov

Support provided by the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation.

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JANUARY 13 - FEBRUARY 13



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LECTURE

FEBRUARY 4, 2011
6:30 PM

RICHARD SENNETT

New York University and
the London School of Economics

**RAOUL WALLENBERG
LECTURE**

Richard Sennett, an architect, sociologist, author and humanitarian, will address the topic of borders and boundaries in cities. Sennett founded, with Susan Sontag and Joseph Brodsky, The New York Institute for the Humanities at New York University. In the 1980s he served as an advisor to UNESCO and as president of the American Council on Work. Sennett divides his time between New York University and the London School of Economics.

Born in Chicago in 1943, Sennett grew up in the Cabrini Green Housing Project, one of the first racially-mixed public housing projects in the United States. At the age of six he began to study the piano and the cello, eventually working with Frank Miller of the Chicago Symphony and Claus Adam of the Julliard Quartet. A hand injury ended his musical career, which launched his foray into academic study.

STAMPS AUDITORIUM
WALGREENS DRAMA CENTER
1226 MURFIN AVE
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48104

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nonfiction

Nicholas Delbanco *Tribal elders in the world of art*

Nicholas Delbanco has been in Ann Arbor for almost thirty years now, first brought in as director during the early days of the U-M MFA program in creative writing, now universally recognized as one of the top three such programs in the country. It's a job that takes a particular combination of skills—part diplomat, part bureaucrat, part fundraiser, part publicist, part teacher, and most important, part artist. Despite all his other duties, Delbanco has taken himself to his writing desk each morning, and the result has been impressive. In the list of publications at the beginning of his latest book—*Lastingness: The Art of Old Age*—there are eighteen novels, six books of nonfiction, and another nine edited volumes.

It is a list that would take any writer a few decades to compile.

And those decades provide the case and the motivation for this book. Delbanco admits it early on: "This book is about the tribal elders in the world of art. What interests me is lastingness: how it may be attained. For obvious reasons, this has become a personal matter; I published my first novel in 1966 and very much hope to continue." Much of the book comprises thumbnail studies of artists in different media and genres who have accomplished major work after the age of sixty. Some are studied in depth, some merely mentioned—Eubie Blake, Sophocles, Hardy, Monet, Haydn, Matisse, Henry Moore, Pablo Casals, Yeats, Picasso (with the recognition that he is like-

ly *sui generis*), Georgia O'Keeffe, Tolstoy, and the list goes on.

Although Delbanco recognizes that reasons vary for the late success of some artists—good genes and good luck contribute—he finds patterns in the lives and careers of his subjects. First of all, they seem to have been able to retain a fresh curiosity, an "unabated desire, unflagging expressive ambition; old age slowed and changed but did not staunch their need to look, listen, or write." In addition, these great elders all



seem to have been unwilling to repeat themselves, to replay their past successes: "What [the old creative artist] may lose in brilliance he gains in objectivity; what she relinquishes in prowess she gains in grasp and reach. It's adaptive energy that is entailed in 'lastingness,' not mere sheer repetition." An aging baby boomer who hopes for the possibility of another twenty-five or even thirty years of continued work—oh, someone like myself, for instance—can find something of more than interest in this book; he or she can find a significant straw that we can cling to.

Nicholas Delbanco reads from and discusses *Lastingness: The Art of Old Age* at Nicola's Books on February 8.

—Keith Taylor

Susan Songer's *The Portland Collection*, and Bill Matthieson's *The Waltz Book* if you have them. 3–6 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). Free. 994–9307.

★**"It's Go Time": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to join members of the Ann Arbor Go Club to play the ancient Chinese game of Go, regarded as the world's most difficult board game. 3:30–5:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4555.

★**Kids Open Stage: Oz's Music Environment.** Kids of all ages and musical abilities are invited to play, sing, or just observe. Preceded at 3 p.m. by a kids drum circle (\$10) hosted by Oz's owner Steve Osburn. Drums provided. 4–5 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. Free; donations welcome. 662–8283.

★**In Good Company African American Book Club: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion of *Wisdom*, Heather Neff's debut novel about a family legend that draws an African American nurse from Michigan to St. Croix. 4 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.

★**"Food Beware: The French Organic Revolution": People's Food Co-op.** Screening of Jean-Paul Jaud's 2008 documentary about a French village where the mayor has mandated an organic menu for the local school's lunch program. Followed by a discussion of Michigan farm-to-school efforts. 6–8:30 p.m., PFC Café Verde, 216 N. Fourth Ave. Free. Reservations requested by emailing outreach@peoplesfood.coop, by signing up at the co-op, or by phone. 994–4589.

★**"A Night in Venice": WCC 26th Annual Mardi Gras Fund-Raiser.** The evening kicks off with a northern Italian festival-style feast created by the WCC culinary arts and hospitality department and guest chefs from area restaurants. Followed by dancing to music by the versatile Bugs Beddow Band. This year's theme is Mardi Gras in Venice. 6:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets \$175–\$250 in advance only. 973–3665.

23rd Annual "Big Rack Night." This annual contest for white-tailed deer hunters attracts more than 400 people. The top award winners in the firearms, archery, muzzle loading, ladies, and youth divisions are invited to go onstage, display their antlers, and swap hunting stories. Also, talks by guest speakers with unusual or outstanding racks. Additional overall prize for "biggest rack" (number, size, and mass of points on the 2 horns). Light dinner for sale. 7 p.m. (doors open 5 p.m.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., Saline. Free admission. 439–7919.

★**"Prelude to a Kiss": U-M Basement Arts.** See 3 Thursday. 7 p.m.

★**"Drum 4 Wellness Circle": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth.** All invited to join a drum circle. Bring a drum or use one provided. 7:30–9 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. \$5 suggested donation. 480–1219.

★**"Chocolate Crush": Wild Swan Theater Fund-Raiser.** Fancy chocolate treats from local chocolate makers, along with savory appetizers, wine, and beer. Live music by Jazzistry, a local jazz history ensemble led by veteran alto saxophonist Vincent York. Also, silent and live auctions. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Tickets \$60 & \$125 in advance only. 995–0530.

★**"It Came from Mars": Pioneer High School Theatre Guild.** See 4 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

★**"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying": Burns Park Players 27th Annual Production.** See 4 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

★**"Dearly Beloved": Skyline High School.** See 4 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

★**"Wiley and the Hairy Man": Huron High School Players.** See 4 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

★**1st Saturday Contra: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance.** Live music. All dances taught; no partner needed. Bring flat, smooth-soled shoes. 8–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann

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Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). \$9 (members, \$8; students, \$5). 769-1052.

★University Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music. Christopher James Lees conducts this music student ensemble in a program that explores the extremes of 19th-century Romanticism, including Schubert's Symphony no. 3, Wagner's *Overture to Rienzi*, and Rimsky-Korsakov's celebratory *Capriccio Espagnol*. Also, a performance by the U-M Concerto Competition winner. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0594.

Ann Arbor Grail Singers. Carmen Cavallaro directs this 16-member women's early-music choir in a program highlighted by Spanish Renaissance liturgical music, with emphasis on works by Tomas Luis de Victoria to commemorate the 400th anniversary of his death. Also, works by Cristobal de Morales, Francisco de Montanos, Palestrina, and Grandi, and pieces from a 13th-century Florentine manuscript. With viola da gambist Debra Loneragan, recorder player Beth Gilford, and organist Brandon Straub. 8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Tickets \$15 (seniors, \$12; students, \$5) at the door only. 662-0631.

"Dancing Americas": U-M Dance Company. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"It's Always Funny in Follydelphia": U-M Business School B-School Follies. See 4 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Corktown": Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

★"An Evening of Scenes": U-M Residential College Players. See 4 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Little Women: The Broadway Musical": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The War Since Eve": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Michael Somerville: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 3 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Milonga Picante": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. Feb. 5 & 19. Tango dancing to music spun by a DJ. Note: People not affiliated with the U-M must arrive before 9 p.m. 8 p.m.-midnight, Michigan League Vandenberg Room. \$10 (members, \$5). umich.edu/~umtango.

"Serious about Salsa" Latin Dance Party: danceRevolution Dance Studio. Feb. 5 & 19. High-energy dance party with salsa, merengue, bachata, and cha-cha dancing to music spun by a DJ. No partner necessary. 9 p.m.-1 a.m., danceRevolution, Dakota Bldg., 1785 W. Stadium. \$5. (313) 808-0358.

6 SUNDAY

★"A2Sunday Runners": Two Dogs Running. Every Sun. All invited to join informal runs of 5-7 miles along various scenic routes. 8:30 a.m., meet at Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, Kerrytown. Free. 657-0214.

★"Buddhism": Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. Feb. 6 & 13. Talk by Gelek Rimpoche, an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor. Feb. 6: "The Wisdom of Generosity." Feb. 13: "The Four R's of Positive Change." 10-11 a.m., Jewel Heart Center, 1129 Oak Valley Dr. (between Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. & Ellsworth). Free. 994-3387.

★Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship. Feb. 6 & 20. Feb. 6: AAUF member Doug Tracy discusses "The Origin of Race in Human History." Feb. 20: AAUF member Harold Cole discusses "Bonobos." 10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 994-4473.

"In a World On Fire, Can the Buddhaharma Douse the Flames?": Zen Buddhist Temple. Wild Fox Zen (White Bear Township, MN) teacher Doshu Port discusses the ecological and environmental challenges of the 21st century. He also leads a meditation workshop (\$50) on Feb. 5, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. 10:30 a.m., Zen Buddhist Temple, 1214 Packard at Wells. Donation. 761-6520.

★H.A.C. Ultimate. Every Sun. All invited to a very relaxed pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. Note: Overly competitive players are politely asked to leave. 11 a.m., Mitchell Field. Free. 846-9418.

★Mature Singles: First Presbyterian Church. Every Sun. A weekly program open to all single adults interested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas, personal growth, and social and physical activities. Feb. 6: U-M Middle Eastern history professor Juan Cole, a nationally recognized expert on the Middle East and author of the widely influential blog Informed Comment at juancole.com, discusses "Living Without Rights: Palestinian Statelessness as the Crux of the Mideast Crisis." Feb. 13 & 20: screening of the 2-part Questar Mysteries of the Bible film *The Gates of Jerusalem: A History of the Holy City*. Feb. 27: Marcy Toon discusses Rebecca Skloot's book *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*. 11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church Curtis Room, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662-4466, ext. 43.

★Juniper Ridge Ski/Hike: Huron Valley Sierra Club. Local outdoorsman Barry Lonik leads a 2.5-mile hike or ski along Juniper Ridge Trail in the Pinckney State Recreation Area. 1 p.m., meet at Zingerman's Roadhouse (2501 Jackson) to carpool. Free. 477-5715.

★Storytime: Downtown Borders. Every Sun. A Borders staffer reads stories for kids. 1 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668-7652.

★"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library. Local composer-percussionist Aron Kaufman leads infants through 5-year-olds (accompanied by an adult) in a program of music and dancing. 1-1:40 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4555.

"Abe's Birthday Bash": Ann Arbor Art Center. All invited to celebrate Lincoln's birthday by painting a ceramic piggy bank, which comes with a Lincoln penny. Also, birthday cake. Kids age 12 & under must be accompanied by an adult. 1-4 p.m., AAC, 117 W. Liberty. \$10 in advance at annarborartcenter.org or by phone. 994-8004, ext. 101.

★"Paint with Your Computer": Ann Arbor District Library Comic Artists Forum. Comics artist Jerzy Drozd, a contributing editor to the online comics anthology sugaryseries.com, demonstrates basic image editing techniques and explores some handy coloring techniques used in professional comic book coloring. Materials will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own artwork. For adults and teens in grade 6 & up. 1-3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower between Stone School & Packard. Free. 327-4200.

★"The Collector's Eye": UMMA. Feb. 6, 12, 20, & 26. Docent-led tour that highlights collectors who have had a large influence on UMMA holdings. 1 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763-UMMA.

★"Junie B. Jones": Theatreworks USA (Michigan Theater Foundation Not Just for Kids Series). This renowned New York City-based children's theater troupe returns to the Michigan Theater to present its colorful, funny, fast-paced musical based on Barbara Park's stories about the rambunctious first-grader Junie B. Jones. The plot involves making new friends, getting new glasses, the annual kickball tournament, and other angst-ridden first-grade ordeals. 1:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$14 (MTF members, \$12) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745-3000.

★"Kerry Tales: Lost and Found with Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops. 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and stories with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. 2 p.m., Hollander's, 410 N. Fourth Ave. (Kerrytown). Free. 769-3115.

"Worldwide Recipes for Dried Beans": Preserving Traditions. All invited to make an Indian-style dal, refried beans, and classic American bean soup. 2 p.m., Pittsfield Union Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. \$5 (Grange members, free). Pre-registration required by emailing preservetrad@gmail.com. Preservingtraditions.org

★"Mai-Thu Perret: An Ideal for Living": UMMA. Feb. 6, 12, 13, 19, 26, & 27. Guided tours of the current exhibit of works in various media by Perret, a contemporary Swiss artist whose work centers around her fictional narrative about a utopian women's community in New Mexico. Note: UMMA curator Jacob Proctor discusses the exhibit at 3 p.m. on Feb. 20 in the UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium. 2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 763-0395.

"Dancing Americas": U-M Dance Company. See 3 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"The War Since Eve": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Corktown": Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

★Pokemon League: Get Your Game On. Every Sun. All invited to play this popular card game and trade cards with other players. 3 p.m., Get Your Game On, 709 Packard. Free. 786-3746.

"Little Women: The Broadway Musical": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 3 Thursday. 3 p.m.

Children's Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. Every Sun. The Dreamland Puppet Troupe presents marionette and shadow puppet shows for kids. 3:30 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. \$5 (kids age 3 & under, free). 657-2337.

★"Tom Turner": Yourist Studio Gallery. Video of this North Carolina potter who demonstrates techniques for making functional pottery and shows some works from his permanent collection. 4 p.m., Yourist Studio Gallery, 1133 Broadway. Free. 662-4914.

★Ann Arbor Morris. Every Sun. All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance based on the 15th-century Spanish *moresca*. Wear athletic shoes. 6-8 p.m., Gretchen's House VII barn,

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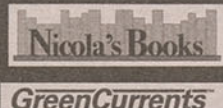
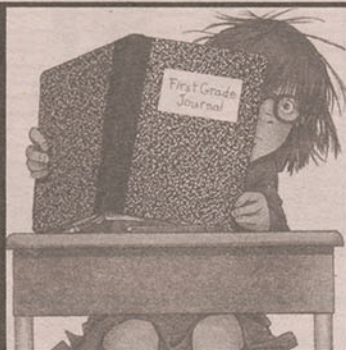
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"Global Music Celebration": First United Methodist Church. Performers include a Korean vocal ensemble, Ghanaian multi-instrumentalist Kofi Ameyaw, steel drummer Ai Yumibe, and FUMC vocal and instrumental ensembles. Preceded at 5 p.m. by a SERRV sale of handcrafted items made by Third World artisans and at 6 p.m. by a dinner with international foods prepared by Zingerman's chef Alex Young. 7 p.m., FUMC, 120 S. State. Donation. Dinner tickets \$15 (students, \$8; families, \$40; kids age 4 & under, free) in advance only. 662-4536.

"Songs of Love: Robert Schumann's Dichterliebe": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Music for Meditation. St. Andrew's rector Alan Gibson performs Schubert's song cycle and other love songs. Piano accompanist is St. Andrew's music director Deborah Friauff. 7:15 p.m., St. Andrew's, 306 N. Division. Free. 662-4466.

"Concert4aCause": Northside Community Church. A varied program by local classical professional musicians, including the duo of DSO bass trombonist Randy Hawes and pianist Kathryn Goodson, the duo of baritone Chris Grapentine and pianist Jean Schneider, solo pianist Adrienne Clark, and a local student string quartet. Program TBA. Proceeds benefit Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation. 7:30 p.m., Northside Community Church, 929 Barton Dr. Donation. 662-6351.

Ballroom Dance Club at the U-M. Feb. 6, 13, & 27. Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 7 p.m. by beginning lessons and practice. 8-10 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. \$5. 763-6984.

7 MONDAY

***Monday Club:** Ann Arbor Salvation Army. Every Mon. Drop-in social group for seniors age 55 & over. Every meeting includes a speaker, word game, craft, or activity. Also, Bible study and chair exercises. Followed by lunch (bring a bag lunch) and socializing. 10 a.m.-noon, Salvation Army, 100 Arbana. Free. 668-8353.

***Weekly Rehearsal: Women's Chamber Chorus.** Every Mon. All invited to join this independent 30-member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. David Perample directs. 10-11:30 a.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh. Free to visitors (\$100 per semester dues for those who join). 665-9271.

***"Playgroups for Babies":** Ann Arbor District Library. Every Mon. Jan. 10-Feb. 21. Play group for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. Note: Play groups are also offered (through the week of Feb. 21) at the Malletts Creek (Tues., 10-11 a.m., & Thurs., 6:30-7:30 p.m.), Pittsfield (Wed., 11 a.m.-noon), and Traverwood (Fri., 10:30-11:30 a.m.) branches. 10:30-11:30 a.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

***Movie Matinee:** Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Mon. Screening of a film TBA. Lunch available (\$2.50), 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 12:45 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794-6250.

Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Mon. All seniors age 55 & over invited to play. Bring a partner. Also, at 1 p.m., mah-jongg (free). 12:45-4 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$2. 769-5911.

***Writing Group:** U-M Turner Senior Resource Center. Every Mon. All seniors invited to read and discuss poetry, essays, fiction, and reminiscences they have written. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Turner, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

***"Revolutionaries after the Revolution: Politics under the Ottoman Constitution":** U-M Armenian Studies Program. Talk by Armenian Review managing editor Dikran Kaligian. 4-5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 647-2743.

"A Course in Miracles": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. Every Mon. All invited to read from and discuss this popular Foundation for Inner Peace metaphysical book. Also, local social worker Lorraine Coburn leads a study group on the book, every Thurs., noon-1:30 p.m. 6:45-8:45 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. Donation. 327-0270.

***Weekly Rehearsal: Out Loud Chorus.** Every Mon. Beginning to advanced singers invited to join this chorus of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their friends. 7-9:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 1400 W. Stadium. Free. 973-6084.

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. Every Mon. A wide range of traditional and contemporary Scottish dances, with live music. All dances taught. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. \$5. 395-7782, 426-0241.

***Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society.** All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by local flutist Tim Tikker. Music provided; bring your own music stand. 7:30-9:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors (\$30 annual dues for those who join). 213-3172.

***U-M Concert Band:** U-M School of Music. Rodney Dorsey conducts this music student ensemble in Krenek's *Three Merry Marches*, Shostakovich's *Two Pieces from Scarlatti*, Vaughan Williams' *Folk Song Suite*, Stravinsky's *Ebony Concerto*, Bernstein's *Prelude, Fugue, and Riffs* with clarinetist Chad Burrow, Schoenberg's *Theme and Variations*, and Sousa's *The Gladiator*. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0594.

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. Every Mon. Local high school English teacher Geoff Cost throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Prizes. 8:30-11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. \$5 team fee. 665-2968.

8 TUESDAY

***Stewardship Network Stewards' Circle.** All invited to join a group discussion on how to care for woods, creeks, prairies, wetlands, and other natural areas. 7:30-8:30 a.m., Bruegger's Bagels, 709 North University. Free. 996-3190.

***"Tot Story Hour":** Temple Beth Emeth. TBE librarian Wendy Holden reads stories to families with young children. 10 a.m., TBE Library, 2309 Packard. Free. 665-4744.

***"Thyme to View Gardens of Michigan":** Good Thyme Garden Club. Club member Frances Flory shows and discusses slides of Michigan gardens that incorporate nonbotanical elements. 10 a.m.-noon, Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 944-9131.

***"The Art of Physics":** U-M 31st Distinguished Senior Faculty Lecture. Lecture by U-M physics professor Carl Akerlof. 4:10 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 647-3944.

***Annual Grand Concert: Ann Arbor Suzuki Institute.** A fast-paced concert featuring ensembles of classical violin, viola, and piano students in grades K-12. 5:30 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 996-1949.

***Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group:** U-M English Department. All age 21 & over invited to discuss *Beasts of Burden*, Evan Dorkin and Jill Thompson's graphic novel about supernatural creatures living in a seemingly placid suburb. 7-9 p.m., 3154 Angell Hall. Free. 764-2553.

***"Beekeeping: Is It for You?":** Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers. Club members discuss what's involved in keeping bees. 7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 660-8621.

***Health Sessions: People's Food Co-op.** Feb. 8: Raw foods advocate Ellen Livingston on "Raw Foods: Conquer Your Cravings." Feb. 24: Local holistic health practitioner Linda Diane Feldt on "Herbal Wisdom: Herbal Allies for Menopausal Symptoms Large and Small." 7-8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994-4589.

***"What Adult Learners Expect from and Understand about Literacy":** Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by U-M English and Education grad student Randall Pinder. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

***Nicholas Delbanco:** Nicola's Books. See review, p. 46. This U-M English professor discusses *Lastingness: The Art of Old Age*, his new book that profiles artistic geniuses and explores what characteristics allow artists to reach a creative peak and continue working in later life. Signing. 7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

***Sierra Club Book Club:** Nicola's Books. All invited to discuss *Yellow Dirt: An American Story of a Poisoned Land and a People Betrayed*, Judy Pasternak's book about the disastrous effects of uranium mining on Navajo land. 7:15 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971-1157.

***Loose Leaf Readings:** Ann Arbor Wordworks. Open mike for teen poets and writers. The program begins with a reading by a local poet or writer TBA. 7:30 p.m., TeaHaus, 204 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 622-0460.

9 WEDNESDAY

***"Regulating from Nowhere: Environmental Law and the Search for Objectivity":** U-M Law School Environmental Law & Policy Program. Talk by Yale Law School professor Douglas Kysar. Lunch. Noon, 120 U-M Hutchins Hall, 625 S. State. Free. 647-4034.

***Brown Bag Organ Series:** U-M School of Music. Feb. 9 & 23. 30-minute concerts by local organists. Today: Daniel Mikat. Bring a bag lunch. 12:15 p.m.,

U-M School of Music. Feb. 9 & 23. 30-minute concerts by local organists. Today: Daniel Mikat. Bring a bag lunch. 12:15 p.m.,

U-M School of Public Health Community Lounge, 109 S. Observatory. Free. 764-0594.

"Kids Club": Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. All kids invited to make a Valentine's card. 4 p.m., Whole Foods, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. \$5. Preregistration required. 997-7500.

"Religious Literacy: What Every American Needs to Know—and Doesn't": Association of Religious Counselors. Talk by well-known writer and Boston University religion professor Stephen Prothero. 4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 668-7421.

Bonnie Jo Campbell: U-M Residential College Drama Concentration. Reading by this Kalamazoo fiction writer, author of the 2009 National Book Award finalist *American Salvage*, a collection of stories, set in rural Michigan, about an array of vulnerable, confused, resolute, and sometimes angry people trying to survive in a world where wildlife, jobs, and ways of life are disappearing. 5 p.m., RC Keene Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647-4354.

"Bright Circle": U-M Hatcher Graduate Library. Screening of this documentary about Native Americans' participation and achievement in athletics. Producers Russ Bolinger and Shawn Kakuk introduce the film. 5:30-7 p.m., 100 Hatcher Graduate Library, enter from the Diag. Free. 936-1403.

"Water, Oil, and Energy": U-M Exhibit Museum Science Cafe. Talk by MSU Kellogg Biological Station ecosystem ecology professor Steve Hamilton, who was part of the emergency response to the Kalamazoo River oil pipeline rupture, and U-M Risk Science Center director Andrew Maynard. Followed by discussion. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by hors d'oeuvres. 6-7:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. Free. 764-0478.

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Northwestern. The U-M also has games this month against Indiana (Feb. 12, 4 p.m.) and Wisconsin (Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m.). 6:30 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$15 & \$22. 764-0247.

Annual Potluck: Wild Ones. Bring a dish to pass. Members show their nature photos from the past year. 6:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 604-4674.

"Blues at the Crossroads: The Robert Johnson Centennial Project Dinner": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Chef Alex Young presents a Mississippi country meal, and U-M American culture professor Bruce Conforth, the 1st curator of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, discusses Delta blues master Robert Johnson and his influence. In conjunction with the University Musical Society "Blues at the Crossroads" concert (see 10 Thursday listing). 7 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. \$45 (beverages not included). Space limited; reservations required. 663-FOOD.

"Born to Be Wild or Mild: Understanding Your Child's Temperament": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by U-M Center for the Child and Family social worker Eileen Bond. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

"The Adventures of Augie March": Barnes & Noble Fiction Book Club. All invited to join a discussion of Saul Bellow's classic 1953 picaresque novel about the adventures of a Chicago-bred American Everyman. Refreshments. 7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-1618.

"Real Time Farms": Pittsfield Union Grange. RTF cofounder Cara Rosaen discusses her web-based business that helps connect people with local food producers. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass). 7:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). Free. 769-1052.

History Readers Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. Retired local social worker Myrna Lueck leads a discussion of Jonathan Alter's *The Defining Moment: FDR's Hundred Days and the Triumph of Hope*. 7:30 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 369-2499.

"Corktown": Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

10 THURSDAY

"What's in Your Drinking Water?": U-M School of Public Health. This symposium kicks off with a talk on "Pharmaceuticals in Drinking Water." Also, a talk on "Microbial Contamination of Drinking Water" (11 a.m.) and "Safe Drinking Water: Principles, Policies, and Regulations" (1 p.m.). Lunch. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 1690 SPH I, 1415 Washington Hts. Free. Preregistration required at <http://tinyurl.com/4umq5mj>. eob@umich.edu.

"Liberty Awakes in Washtenaw County—When Women Won the Vote": Washtenaw County Historical Society. Feb. 10 & 24. All invited to join a discussion on women's suffrage. Bring a bag lunch.

In conjunction with the current exhibit at the WCHS museum (see Galleries). Noon-1 p.m., The Museum on Main Street, 500 N. Main. Free. 662-9092.

Ikebana International Chapter 183. Club member Jen Thompson leads a session of ikebana, the Japanese art of flower arrangement. Call for instructions on equipment to bring. 1 p.m., University Commons, 817 Asa Gray Dr. (off Huron Pkwy.). \$15 (members, \$8) materials fee. (248) 685-7696.

"Dress, Dance, Display": International Neighbors. Club members display their national costumes, and Raphaela Moeller leads a children's dance group in a performance of La Diablada, a traditional Bolivian dance. All area women invited. Nursery care provided for preschoolers. Refreshments. 1-2:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church social hall, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Free. 995-1645.

"Chocolate & Cheese": Zingerman's Creamery. Zingerman's Deli chocolate expert Margot Miller discusses and offers taste samples of several gourmet chocolate and cheese pairings. 4-6 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. \$25. 929-0500.

"On the Singularity of Literary Cognition": U-M Romance Languages & Literatures Hayward Keniston Lecture. Lecture by Northwestern University humanities professor Samuel Weber. 4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre (4th floor). Free. 764-5344.

"Economic Knowledge, Capitalist Mythologies": U-M Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies. Pitzer College (Claremont, CA) anthropology and history professor Dan Segal discusses supply and demand and how economic textbooks have come to teach students not to think about labor exploitation. 4-6 p.m., 1014 Tisch Hall, 435 S. State. Free. 615-7400.

U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series. Feb. 10, 17, & 24. Readings by poets and fiction writers. Today: fiction reading by U-M grad Mary Gaitskill, an acclaimed fiction writer and essayist whose novel *Veronica* was nominated for a National Book Award and named one of the 10 best books of 2005 by *The New York Times*. "When distilled to its essence, Gaitskill's fiction is the literary equivalent of scratch marks from raking nails," says an *L.A. Times* review of her 2009 short story collection *Don't Cry*—lingering, throbbing, trailing blood...In *Don't Cry* she stares down human pain more directly than ever before." 5:10 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764-6330.

Food Sessions: Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. Feb. 10, 16, 22, 24, & 25. Talks and demos by Whole Foods staffers (except as noted). Topics: "Let's Make Truffles!" (Feb. 10), "Health Starts Here: Tasty Bean Dishes" (Feb. 16), "Healthy Entrées That Showcase Health Starts Here Sauces" (Feb. 22), "Quick, Easy, & Satisfying from Palate to Pocketbook: Expanded Seitan Recipes That Provide Variety Without the Anxiety" with Mama Mofoods (Munith) founder Linda Conrad (Feb. 24), and "Michigan Dark Beers" (Feb. 25). 6 p.m., Whole Foods, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. \$10 (except Feb. 25, \$6). 997-7500.

"Big Ales": Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting. A chance to sample and learn about some 2 dozen strong ales—higher-alcohol versions of pale ales that are sometimes referred to as old ales, stock ales, or winter warmers. Also, barley wines, scotch ales, Double IPAs, and Belgian ales. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet. 7-9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. 213-1393.

"Tea Tasting": Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers. All invited to sample premium teas from China and Taiwan. 7-8 p.m., Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers Studio B, 2007 S. State. \$5. 945-8602.

Trivia Night: U-M Wikipedians. All invited to join or form a 5-person team to compete in a trivia competition. Prizes, refreshments. 7-9 p.m., 100 Hatcher Graduate Library, enter from the Diag. Free. 615-5783.

"Good Health Makes Life Worth Living": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by motivational speaker Pete Thomas, who dropped 185 pounds in 9 months to win the 2nd season of the NBC reality show *The Biggest Loser*. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

"State of the Progressive Movement": Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice. Panel discussion with several community organizers, including Center for Progressive Leadership program director Dessa Cosma, Michigan Forward founder Brandon Jessup, Michigan Peace Team founder Peter Dougherty, and ICPJ director Chuck Warpehoski. 7 p.m., First United Methodist Church Wesley Foundation Lounge, 602 E. Huron. Free. 663-1870.

"The Wonderful World of Dissocia": U-M Basement Arts. Feb. 10-12. Gordon Granger directs Anthony Neilson's play about a young woman who has completely fallen into her dreamlike imaginary life. 7 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Studio 1, 1226

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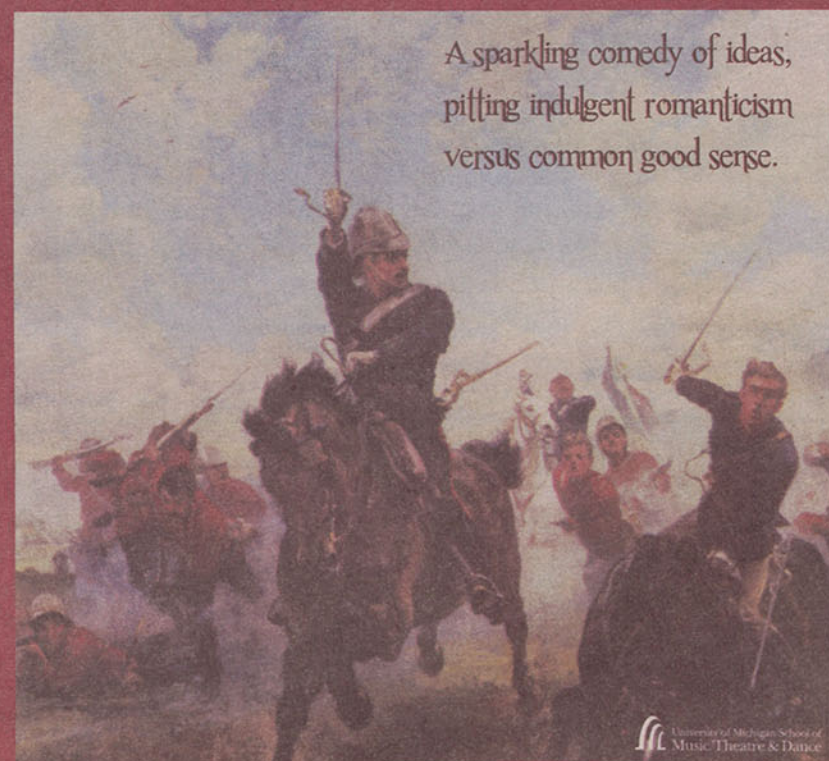
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"Little Women: The Broadway Musical": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 3 Thursday. 7 p.m.

"Enhancing the Magic: Bringing the Next Generation of Disney Magic, Storytelling, and Personalization to Our Flagship Park": U-M Museum Studies Program. Walt Disney Imagineering senior concept designer Christopher Beatty discusses redesigning one of the Disney amusement parks. 7:30 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 936-6678.

"Jeffrey Schultz: Concordia University. This award-winning L.A. poet reads from and discusses his recent work. 7:30 p.m., Concordia University Riverside Rooms (lower level of the Student Union), 4090 Geddes. Free. 995-73890

"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying": Burns Park Players 27th Annual Production. See 4 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"Bartok and Beyond": Kerrytown Concert House. Kalamazoo Symphony principal cellist David Peshlakai and Hungarian violinist Csaba Erdelyi perform Eastern European folk music. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10-\$25 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

"Blues at the Crossroads: The Robert Johnson Centennial Concert": University Musical Society. A tribute concert to the Delta blues legend Robert Johnson (1911-1938) whose landmark recordings have influenced generations of musicians. Performers: Hubert Sumlin, as Howlin' Wolf's guitarist, invented and perfected a thickly resonant yet ruthlessly knifing sound that is the template on which all the great 60s rock 'n' roll guitarists—from Robbie Robertson and Keith Richards to Jimi Hendrix and Eric Clapton—built their individual styles. At 94, singer-guitarist David "Honeyboy" Edwards, the last living person to have played with Johnson, continues to play gritty, uncompromising country blues. Colorado trio Big Head Todd & the Monsters plays blues- and country-inflected roots-rock with a brash intensity, rhythmic drive, and sweeping imaginative reach that has provoked comparisons to early Bruce Springsteen and Tom Petty. Grandson of the legendary bluesman R.L. Burnside, Cedric Burnside is a singer-songwriter and widely regarded as one of the best drummers in the world. He plays with Lightning' Malcolm, a guitarist, bassist, drummer, and vocalist from rural Missouri who has a deep, soulful voice and plays with a slashing, rhythmic style. Malcolm is known for his sense of old blues styles, and he's especially noted for his old-fashioned, church "shout" style on drums. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$10-\$46 in advance at the Michigan League & ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

"The War Since Eve": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Corktown": Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Kerri Louise: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Feb. 10-12. Ann Arbor debut of this popular stand-up comic, a ubiquitous TV presence—including as a regular correspondent on *The Oprah Winfrey Show* and a costar with her husband, Tom Cotter, of the WE Network reality show *Two Funny*. Known for her boisterously hysterical stories about everyday life, she bills herself as "the girl next door with an edge." Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). \$9 (Thurs.) & \$12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$11 (Thurs.) & \$14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

"Poetic Debauchery Poetry Slam": Krazy Kats. All poets invited to compete in a poetry slam judged by a randomly chosen panel from the audience. Cash prizes. The slam is preceded by a brief poetry open mike and a short set by Full Dimensional, a Detroit area garage trio that plays arty psychedelic rock. The band plays a full set after the slam. 9-11:30 p.m. (sign-up begins at 8:15 p.m.), The Circus, 210 S. First. Free. 985-0736.

11 FRIDAY

"Tiny Tot Time": Leslie Science and Nature Center. A program of hikes, storytelling, songs, puppets, and crafts for kids ages 1-3 accompanied by a caregiver. Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. 9:30-11 a.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. \$7. 997-1553.

"Family Art Morning": Allen Creek Preschool. Kids up to age 6, accompanied by a parent, are invited to work on arts and crafts projects. 10-11 a.m., Allen Creek Preschool, 2350 Miller. Free. 994-3382.

"Lunchtime Tours": UMMA. Feb. 11 & 18. Student docents give 30-minute tours of the art museum. 12:15-12:45 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

"What Came First, Grasslands or Grass-Eaters? Insights from the Fossil Record of Plant Silica": U-M Geological Sciences. Talk by Uni-

versity of Washington biology professor Caroline Stromberg. 4 p.m., 1528 Little, 425 East University. Free. 648-9938.

Parents' Night Out: Ann Arbor YMCA. Kids ages 2-10 can enjoy dinner, games, and sports, and (age 5 & over only) a dip in the pool. 6:15-10 p.m., YMCA, 400 W. Washington. \$30 (members, \$25). Preregistration required. 661-8058.

"Music and Movement: Just Babies!": Ann Arbor District Library. KinderMusik teacher Denise Owens presents a program for infants through 2-year-olds accompanied by an adult. 6:30-7:10 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4555.

"Daddy Daughter Dance": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. All daughters and their fathers invited for dancing to recorded music. Refreshments and a balloon drop. Dressy attire. 6:30-8:30 p.m., Meri Lou Murray Recreation Center, Platt at Washtenaw. \$8 (includes a wrist corsage and souvenir). Preregistration required by Feb. 9. 971-6355.

"The Cow in the Parking Lot: A Zen Approach to Overcoming Anger": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Salon Reading Circle. Crazy Wisdom owner Bill Zirinsky leads a discussion of Susan Edmiston and Leonard Scheff's book. 7 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. Feb. 11 & 18. Readings by U-M creative writing grad students. Today: prose by Charlene Luck and poetry by Francine Harris. 7 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615-3710.

"Rocky Horror Show": EMU Theatre Department. Feb. 11-13 & 17-19. EMU drama professor Phil Simmons directs EMU drama students in Richard O'Brien's long-running rock musical, a delightful send-up of campy horror films, about the fresh-scrubbed young couple, Brad & Janet, who find themselves unexpected guests at Frankenstein Mansion, which turns out to be full of unusual residents, including a transsexual transvestite alien in the midst of a diabolical experiment. The score includes such favorites as "Dammit, Janet!", "The Time Warp," and "Touch-a, Touch-a, Touch-a, Touch Me." 7 p.m., EMU Quirk Theater, Ford St. (off Lowell from Huron River Dr.), Ypsilanti. Tickets \$15 (students, \$12; kids age 12 & under, \$7) in advance and at the door. 487-2282.

★"The Wonderful World of Dissocia": U-M Basement Arts. See 10 Thursday. 7 & 11 p.m.

U-M Ice Hockey vs. Ohio State. Feb. 11 & 12. The U-M also has matches this month against WMU (Feb. 18 & 19). 7:30 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. \$19-\$25. 764-0247.

★"Social Situations That Fluster": Older Lesbians Organizing. All lesbians invited to join a discussion. 7:30 p.m., Jim Toy Community Center (former WRAP office), 319 Braun Ct. Free. 995-9867.

"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying": Burns Park Players 27th Annual Production. See 4 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"Wiley and the Hairy Man": Huron High School Players. See 4 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

★Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society. Feb. 11 & 18. All invited to peer through the telescopes in the observatory and on the Angell Hall roof and to view shows in the planetarium. Also, short astronomy presentations by club members. 8-10 p.m., 5th floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (from the large State St. entrance, take one of the elevators on the left). Free. 764-3440.

Advanced English Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Experienced English country dancers invited to try new dances created by local choreographers. 8-11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). \$10. (248) 288-4737.

"3rd Annual UMGASS Benefit Concert": U-M Gilbert and Sullivan Society. U-M students perform Gilbert & Sullivan favorites. Also, a sing-along. Followed by a reception and silent auction. 8 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William. Free admission. 647-8436.

★Student Songwriter Showcase: The Ark. Performances by U-M student singer-songwriters. 8 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 761-1451.

★EMU Wind Symphony and Chamber Winds: EMU Music Department. Mary Schneider directs these music student ensembles in a program TBA. 8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

Les Voix Humaines: Academy of Early Music. The acclaimed Montreal viola da gamba duo of Susie Napper and Margaret Little performs 17th-century French chamber music. The program is highlighted by works by Sainte-Colombe and his famous pupil Marin Marais. 8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Tickets \$20 (seniors, \$17;

Rudresh Mahanthappa and Vijay Iyer

Jazz for a new America

At the very essence of jazz there is a seismograph that responds to the changing social fabric of America. This was perhaps best

encapsulated in the title of Sidney Finkelstein's book *Jazz, A People's Music*, published over sixty years ago. More recently, a new generation of musicians, born in the West of immigrant parents, have blended jazz with the arts of their cultural roots. The highlights of last year's Edgefest were Jason Hwang's jazz reinvention of aspects of Chinese musics, and Amir ElSaffar's tribute to his Iraqi origins. Now UMS brings together the groups of pianist Vijay Iyer and alto saxophonist Rudresh Mahanthappa, whose roots lie in different parts of India.

Iyer and Mahanthappa, who grew up and were educated in different parts of this country, met in 1976 and began to play as a duo; and although both have participated in and led various other groups, they remain in many ways inseparable, getting together to tour in tandem to this day. Their musical development has been marked by a clear intent to avoid the obvious, as is apparent in their unusual attitude toward their own Indian roots. Both have managed to avoid the simple borrowing that often characterizes such fusions. Instead, over the years they have cautiously investigated the rhythmic and melodic foundations of the various musical traditions that have flourished in India.

Mahanthappa took his search further when he discovered the Carnatic playing of fellow alto saxophonist Kadri Gopalnath,

one of the few native Indian musicians who play the instrument. After studying with the master, he brought him West for a tour that included the recording of the CD *Kinsmen*. Mahanthappa has absorbed the Indian pitch blends, quarter tones, and rhythmic elements into his playing, but in his hands they lose their original references and become part of a consistent personal style. Indeed, he plays in the same general manner whether in duet



with Iyer, as part of ElSaffar's Iraqi-flavored band, or—as at Hill Auditorium last year—with Cuban pianist Chucho Valdés. Ever searching for new experiences, he teamed up recently with an alto saxophonist from a very different generation, seventy-five-year-old Bunky Green. Green, who began as a bebopper, has not remained frozen in his music but has absorbed selected elements of more recent harmonic and textural developments. Both saxophonists share a commitment to hard, driving, complex yet extremely precise playing, even if they differ in personal sound and rhythmic approach. The group they formed has toured and recorded an acclaimed CD, *Apex*.

Iyer, whose fascinating recent trio, quartet, and solo recordings testify to his original, busy, harmonically dense but clear approach to improvisation, comes with his trio. The two groups share a double bill at Power Center on Saturday, February 12.

—Piotr Michalowski

students, \$5) in advance at *AcademyOfEarlyMusic.org* and by phone, and at the door. 528-1838.

Rafal Blechacz: University Musical Society. In 2005, then-20-year-old Polish pianist Blechacz swept all 5 first prizes at the International Chopin Competition. He is known as a superb interpreter of Chopin, and his playing is poetic and poised with a phenomenal and luminous technique. Program: Mozart's Variations on "Lison Dormait" in C Major, Debussy's *L'Isle Joyeuse*, Szymanowski's Sonata no. 1 in C Minor, and Chopin's Ballade in G Minor, *Two Polonaises*, *Four Mazurkas*, and Ballade in F Major. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$10-\$50 in advance at the Michigan League and *ums.org*, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

Oblivion Project: Kerrytown Concert House. This innovative local tango band performs a tribute to Astor Piazzolla's influential and increasingly popular "nuevos tangos," which assimilate folk idioms to jazz and classical sensibilities. Performers include violinist Gabe Bolkosky, bandoneon player Julien Labro, cellist Derek Snyder, pianist Tad Weed, bassist John Holkeboer, and percussionist Alex Trajano. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15-\$30 (students, \$10). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

"The Honeybees Versus the Katydids": Canterbury House. Double bill. Jazz and pop-folk by Katie Battistoni, a local singer-songwriter-guitarist who also plays French horn, *veena* (Indian lute), and keyboards. Also, a performance by the local jazz band *Honey*. 8 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron. \$10 (students, \$5). 764-3162.

"Better": Greenhills School Gay-Straight Alliance Benefit. Performances by the local Middle Eastern dance troupe *Unveiled Belly Dance Com-*

pany, the U-M a cappella ensemble *58 Greene*, viola player William McClain, guitarist and vocalist Peter Holland, vocalist Richard Harper, members of the *GO Comedy* improv group, the gothic bellydance company *The Lunatic Vagabonds*, and others TBA. Proceeds benefit the Trevor Project, a crisis and suicide prevention organization for LGBTQ youth. 8 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. \$10 donation. 205-4078.

Marshall Chapman: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Critically acclaimed husky-voiced country-rock singer-songwriter from South Carolina whose spirited, emotionally attentive songs have been recorded by everyone from John Hiatt and Tanya Tucker to Dion and the Uppity Blues Women. "When I hear Marshall Chapman, I feel panthers of grace rising around me, and this new record of hers is a new magic breeze for those panthers and me," says the veteran critic Nick Tosches in his review of her 2007 CD, *Mellowicious*. Chapman also co-created with Matraca Berg the 1998 feminist country musical *Good Ol' Girls*, and recently she has finished her 2nd book (*They Came to Nashville*), portrayed Gwyneth Paltrow's road manager in the recent movie *Country Strong*, and released *Big Lonesome*, a brand-new CD that *Paste* magazine says "might just be her masterpiece." Desserts & coffee available. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$15 (kids age 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665-8558.

"The Dance of the Seven Veils": New Theatre Project. Feb. 11-14, 18-21, & 25-28. Keith Paul Medelis directs this new local company in its drama, a blend of theater, song, dance, and art inspired by

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- ☑ Attend an annual member recognition ceremony

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Kindergarten Round-Ups



Come hear about the kindergarten options available in the Ann Arbor Public School district, including: • Half-day kindergarten • Extended-day kindergarten (half-day kindergarten program with half-day child care with the same teacher) • Full-day kindergarten at some schools • Before-and after-school care • Preschool Options

Exceptional⁺

ANN ARBOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS
www.a2schools.org

Abbot	2/2/11	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Allen	2/17/11	6:30 p.m. (parents & students)
Angell	3/10/11	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Ann Arbor Open	2/16/11	7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
	3/12/11	10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
	3/20/11	1:00 - 2:30 p.m.
Bach	2/17/11	7:00 - 8:00 p.m. (parents only)
Bryant	2/03/11	6:30 p.m. (parents only)
	2/11/11	1:30 p.m. (parents & students)
Burns Park	2/08/11	7:00 - 8:00 p.m. (parents only)
	2/10/11	1:30 p.m. (parents & students)
Carpenter	3/03/11	6:00 - 7:00 p.m. (parents only)
Dicken	2/08/11	6:30 - 7:30 p.m. (parents only)
	3/24/11	4:00 p.m. (parents & students)
Eberwhite	2/15/11	7:00 p.m. (parents only)
Haisley	2/01/11	6:30 - 8:00 p.m. (parents & students)
King	2/15/11	6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Lakewood	3/15/11	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Lawton	2/17/11	6:30 - 7:30 p.m. (parents only)
	3/17/11	A-M 5:30-6:00; N-Z 6:15-5:45
Logan	2/02/11	6:00 - 7:30 p.m. (parents only)
Mitchell	3/03/11	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Northside	2/08/11	6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Pittsfield	2/17/11	6:30 - 8:00 p.m. (parents only)
Thurston	3/03/11	6:30 p.m. (childcare provided)
Wines	2/10/11	6:30 p.m.

Ann Arbor Preschool Open Houses

Thurston - Tuition PreSchool	2/8/11	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Allen - Tuition PreSchool	2/17/11	5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

If you have questions about your child's school, please call 994-2200 or go to the district's web site, www.a2schools.org and click on the "Especially for Parents" link to log in your street name to find out your child's elementary school. Kindergarten round-up is primarily an informational meeting for parents. Some schools have planned activities for students and/or optional child care. Please contact the individual schools for more details.

Grieving Children Need Support

This creative support group program helps children learn how to cope with the death of a parent, sibling or other loved one. At Ele's Place, children find a warm and welcoming setting to meet new friends who really understand how they feel. Together, they learn to cope and they begin to heal.

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Ele's Place

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Friday, February 18th
Friday, March 18th
or Saturday, March 26th
from 10:30 - 11:30am

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- Mixed age Preschool
- Junior & Senior Preschool
- Parent-Toddler Programs for Ones and Twos
- Under Ones for Parents and Children, birth to one year old

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New Exhibits this Month

Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. *Go Figure: Representations of the Human Form* (Feb. 11–Mar. 20). Works by sculptors Chris Untalan and Mark Chatterly. Reception Feb. 11, 6–8 p.m. Mon.–Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–5:30 p.m. 994-8004.

Ann Arbor District Library, Malletts Creek Branch (3090 E. Eisenhower Pkwy.). *The Waters of France: Color Photography by Sandy Schopbach* (Feb. 5–Mar. 15). Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun., noon–6 p.m. 327-4510.

Art That Is Local Gallery, Whole Foods Market mezzanine level, 3135 Washtenaw. *Warm Your Heart with Art* (through Mar. 28). Daily 8 a.m.–10 p.m. 975-4500.

Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington St., Ypsilanti. *Ehmdott* (Feb. 25). Fantasy paintings by Ehmdott, the pseudonym of Ypsilanti artist Mia Klavon. Reception Feb. 25, 8 p.m. 657-2337.

EMU Ford Gallery, Ford Hall, E. Cross between Welch Hall and Boone Hall, Ypsilanti. *Annual Juried Student Show* (through Feb. 12). *Annual Graduate Student Show* (Feb. 22–Mar. 17). Reception Feb. 22, 4–7 p.m. Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 487-1268.

EMU University Art Gallery, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. *Figurative Works* (through Feb. 12). National juried show that explores the formal and conceptual boundaries of figurative art. *Annual Faculty Exhibit Part I* (Feb. 23–Mar. 18). Reception Feb. 23, 4–7 p.m. Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 487-0465.

Gallery 55+, 2401 Plymouth Rd. *Photography by Marion Holt and Alida Silverman* (through Apr. 29). Reception Feb. 13, 4 p.m. 998-9353.

Gallery Project, 215 S. Fourth Ave. *Mine Yours* (Feb. 23–Apr. 3). A multimedia exhibit of works by more than 20 local, regional, and national artists who address issues of possession, boundaries, privacy, and encroachment. Reception Feb. 25, 6–9 p.m. Tues.–Sat. noon–9 p.m., Sun. noon–4 p.m. 997-7012.

Gifts of Art (U-M Hospitals), Main Hospital: Flowers: Mixed Media on Paper by Martha Rock Keller; Revisited: Printmaking & Drawing by Emily Stokes; Metals 2011: Michigan Silversmiths Guild Group Show (Feb. 14–Apr. 11).



Martha Rock Keller's *August Pine* is on display at WSG Gallery through February 13.

11). **Taubman Center: Moments in Medicine: Silver Gelatin Portraits by J. Adrian Wylie; Form & Function: Ceramics by Francesc Burgos; From Study to Studio: Oils & Pastels by Six Women Painters; Garden of Delights: Glass & Steel Sculpture by Brent Marshall (Feb. 14–Apr. 11). Daily 8 a.m.–8 p.m. 936-ARTS.**

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. *Recent Works by Local Photographer Bill Peletier and Abstract Painter Nancy Wolfe* (Feb. 2–28). Reception Feb. 7, 5–7 p.m. Hours by appointment and during evening concerts. 769-2999.

Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. *Growing Up* (Feb. 3–26). Photographs of American culture and

landscapes by Michigan native Dan Farnum. Reception Feb. 26, 5–7 p.m. Thurs.–Sat. 3–8 p.m., Sun. 1:30–4 p.m. 480-2787.

U-M Bentley Historical Library, 1150 Beal. *Rally Round the Flag!* (through June 30). An exhibit about the Civil War in Michigan. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–12:30 p.m. 764-3482.

U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. *H2O! The Story of Water* (Feb. 26–Apr. 4). Tues. & Thurs.–Sun. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Wed. 10 a.m.–8 p.m. \$5 (kids age 5–17, \$2; kids age 4 & under, free). 647-7808.

U-M Power Center, 121 Fletcher. *Works by the Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild* (Feb. 1–28). Exhibit open 30 minutes prior to performances. 764-2538.

U-M Slusser Gallery (U-M School of Art & Design), 2000 Bonisteel. *A&D 7th Annual Faculty Exhibition* (Feb. 4–25). Reception Feb. 4, 6–9 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 936-2082.

U-M Taubman College Gallery, 2106 Art and Architecture Building, 2000 Bonisteel. *Reflexive Architecture Machines* (Feb. 10–Mar. 1). Works by University of Buffalo researchers. Reception Feb. 10, 6:30 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 764-1300.

U-M Warren Robbins Center (U-M School of Art & Design), Art & Architecture Building, 2000 Bonisteel. *Six* (Feb. 11–24). Works by U-M Art & Design first year graduate students. 764-0397.

U-M Work (U-M School of Art & Design), 306 S. State. *A&D Emeritus Faculty Exhibition* (Feb. 2–25). Reception Feb. 4, 6–9 p.m. Tues.–Sun. noon–7 p.m. 998-6178.

WSG Gallery, 306 S. Main. *Tree Light Interface* (through Feb. 13). Paintings by Martha Rock Keller. *Faces* (Feb. 16–Mar. 27). Works by Community High School art students and WSG artists. Tues. & Wed. noon–6 p.m., Thurs.–Sat. noon–10 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 761-2287.

WCC Gallery One, First floor of the student center bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. *Looking at the Land: Through the Camera's Eye* (through Mar. 31). Photographs by Mitch Dobrowser, Mark Klett, and Byron Wolfe. Mon. & Tues. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Wed. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Fri. 10 a.m.–noon. 477-8512.

Charles L. Mee's *Salome*. Drawing on interviews with and blogs and books by sex workers, it is the story of 3 women who represent the multiple stages of a sex worker's life. Cast: Linda Rabin-Hammell, Amanda Lyn Jungquist, and Maria Thomas. 8 p.m., *Pot & Box*, 220 Felch. \$15 (students & seniors, \$10) in advance at tickets@thenewtheatreproject.com and at the door. (810) 623-0909.

"Little Women: The Broadway Musical": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The War Since Eve": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Corktown": Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Comedy Held Hostage": Riverside Arts Center. Feb. 11 & 12. A trio of irreverent, somewhat politically incoherent young area comics—Chillian Thomas, Susan Coletti, and Jarred Kreger—perform some solo stand-up comedy and get together for some improv games and to heckle the audience. 8 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$10 in advance; \$15 at the door. 612-4332, (586) 871-8461.

Kerri Louise: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 10 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

12 SATURDAY

7th Annual Independence Lake Ice Fishing Derby: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. Kids and adults can compete in 2 divisions for prizes. Bring your own bait. 7 a.m.–5 p.m., Independence Lake County Park Beach Center, 3200 Jennings (north off North Territorial), Webster Twp. \$8 (kids 12 & under, \$4), includes vehicle entry fee and lunch. 449-4437.

Huron Gun Collectors. Feb. 12 & 13. About 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, and other hunting equipment for sale, including antiques and collectibles. Concessions. 9 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sat.) & 9 a.m.–3 p.m. (Sun.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., Saline. Admission \$4. (517) 605-0624.

***Eco-Restoration Workday: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum**. Feb. 12 & 19. All invited to help Matthaei staff members remove invasive plants. Dress for outdoor work. Snacks and tools provided, or bring your own. 9 a.m.–noon, meet at the Arb Reader Center (Feb. 12), 1610 Washington

Hts. & Matthaei (Feb. 19), 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. Registration requested. 647-8528.

"Heart and Health": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. Feb. 12 & 13. Hands-on activities, including testing drinks for sugar, seeing how exercise changes heart rate, and looking at skin under a microscope. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Feb. 12) & noon–4 p.m. (Feb. 13), AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. \$9 regular admission (members & infants, free). 995-5439.

***"Vermicomposting"**: Ann Arbor Solid Waste Department. An introduction to indoor composting with worms. Preregistration required by Feb. 6 if you want to make your own worm bin (\$25 for a starter kit) to take home. 10 a.m. & 1 p.m., Materials Recovery Facility, 4120 Platt Rd. Free. 794-6000.

***Remote-Controlled Car Racing: Washtenaw RC Raceway**. Feb. 12 & 13. One of the largest regular gatherings of RC racers in the country features off-road dirt-track racing for stock and modified model electric trucks and buggies. Spectators welcome. Food concessions. 10:30 a.m.–midnight, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd., Saline. Doors open at 8 a.m. Free admission. \$16 to race. (313) 565-2815.

***Coffee Tasting: Zingerman's Coffee Company**. Zingerman's Coffee managing partners Allen Leibowitz and Steve Mangian offer taste samples and discuss new coffees. 11 a.m.–noon, Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. Free. Reservations requested. 929-6060.

"Rock Music Concert for Kidz": Mister Laurence Experience. This popular local kiddie-rock trio—Mister Laurence, his wife Princess Melinda, and the animatronic OSO the Drumming Bear—performs zany originals and clever arrangements of kiddie classics billed as "sophisticated enough for the grownup ear, yet silly enough to keep the little ones glued." Raffle of a MLE music video. 11–11:30 a.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. \$7.50 (family, \$15). 883-0964.

U-M Men's Gymnastics vs. Illinois. The U-M squad also has meets this month against Illinois-Chicago (Feb. 19, 2 p.m.) and Stanford (Feb. 26, 7 p.m.). 1 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, 616 E. Hoover. \$3 (youths age 12 & under, \$1; U-M students, free). 763-2159.

***"Make a Valentine"**: Ann Arbor District Library. All kids from preschoolers to 5th graders invited to make a Valentine's Day card. 1–2 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. be-

tween Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327-4555.

"Fables Galore and More": Performance Network Children's Theater Network. Betsy Fox directs local playwright Kimberly Yost and local composers Patrick Farrell and Gene Gaunt's musical adaptation and modernization of several fables and tall tales from around the world. 1 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Tickets \$10 (youth 16 & under, \$7) in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. For reservations or to charge by phone, call 663-0681.

***"East Asian Celebration: Long Life, Happiness, & Prosperity"**: U-M Centers for Chinese, Japanese, & Korean Studies. Performances by local Japanese and Korean musicians and storytellers, and a talk by U-M art professor David Chung on his oil painting *The Ten Immortals*. Also, a self-guided scavenger hunt for hidden symbols throughout the UMMA Asian galleries. 1:30–4 p.m., U-M Museum of Art Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 936-3961.

***"Silverlicious Celebration"**: Borders. Kids ages 4–8 invited to celebrate the release of the newest book in Victoria Kann's Pinkalicious series about a little girl who this time loses a tooth that turns out to be her sweet tooth. Games, crafts, giveaways, and a Pinkalicious parade. 2 p.m., Downtown Borders (612 E. Liberty), Arborland Borders (3527 Washtenaw), & Waters Place Borders (3140 Lohr Rd.). Free. 668-7652 (Downtown), 677-6948 (Arborland), 997-8884 (Waters Place).

***"Let's Get Ready for Lantern Festival"**: Ann Arbor District Library. All kids from preschool through 3rd grade invited to make a paper lantern and dancing dragon for the final celebration of the Chinese New Year. 2–3 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3334 Traver at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327-4555.

***"African Drums and Dance"**: Ann Arbor District Library. Performance for kids in grades K–5, with audience participation, by The Akanni Omowale African Drum and Dance Ensemble. 2–3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

***"Tough Chicks in Crime Fiction"**: Aunt Agatha's. Panel discussion with Chicago mystery writers Barbara D'Amato and Sharon Fiffer and Canadian mystery writer Vicki Delany. The panelists also sign copies of their new books. 2 p.m., Aunt Agatha's, 213 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 769-1114.

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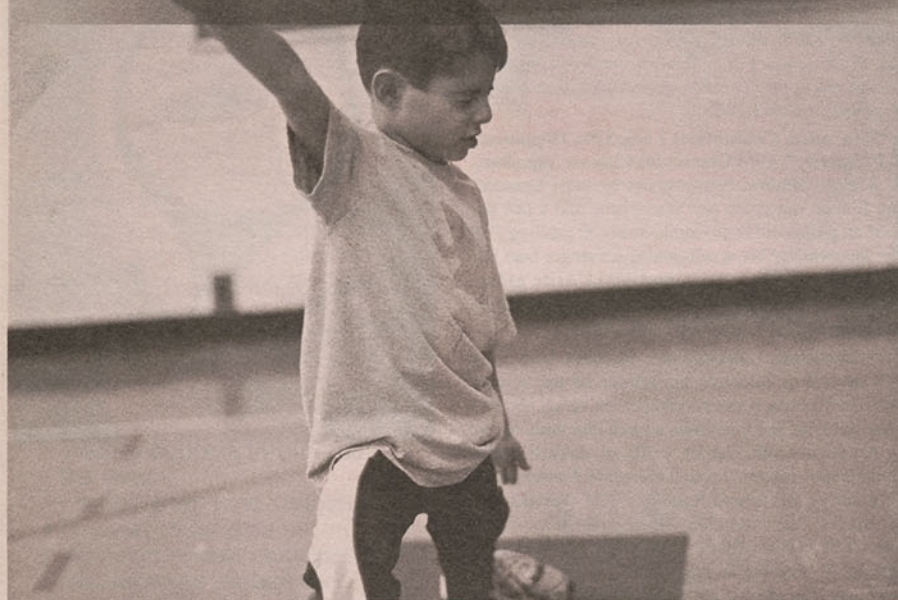
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★**Family Fun: Oz's Music Environment.** Feb. 12, 19, & 26. Families invited to get onstage to sing and make music on a variety of instruments. 3-4 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. \$15 per family. 662-8283.

★**Victorian Valentine Tea: Kempf House Museum.** Feb. 12 & 13. An elegant traditional tea with a menu that includes both sweets and savorys. Period attire welcome. This popular annual fund-raiser usually sells out well in advance. 3:30 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. \$25 (members, \$20). Reservations required. 994-4898.

★**"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying": Burns Park Players 27th Annual Production.** See 4 Friday. 4 p.m.

★**U-M Jazz Combo Workshop Final Concert: U-M School of Music.** Jazz performances by U-M student ensembles and jazz professors. 5 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★**17th Annual Winter Hometown Concert: Saline Fiddlers.** Bluegrass and high-energy American folk by this renowned touring student fiddle ensemble. Tonight's headliner is **The Ragbirds**, an inventive local country-rock band, fronted by singer-songwriter Erin Zindle, whose music also mixes in elements of world music, groove rock, and edgy pop. The band uses a diverse mix of instruments, including violin, mandolin, banjo, accordion, acoustic guitar, and percussion elements from around the world, as well as the old-fashioned drunk kit. 7 p.m., Saline High School Ellen Ewing Performing Arts Center, 1300 Campus Dr., Saline. Tickets \$10-\$20 in advance at salinefiddlers.com or by phone. (866) 257-5333, ext. 1.

★**"10th Annual Dance on Camera Festival": U-M Dance Department.** Feb. 12 & 13. Screening of a video of a juried selection of videodance works from around the world featured in the recent 38th Annual Dance on Camera Festival at Lincoln Center in New York. Videodance is a hybrid art form that combines the dynamics of dance and the moving body with film/video editing and direction, animation, and computer technology. 7-9 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 647-2288.

★**"The Wonderful World of Dissocia": U-M Basement Arts.** See 10 Thursday. 7 p.m.

★**"Rocky Horror Show": EMU Theater Department.** See 11 Friday. 7 p.m.

★**"Valentine's Dinner Dance": Ann Arbor Evening Lions Club.** Beef, chicken, or vegetarian dinner, followed at 9 p.m. by dancing to late-30s swing and 40s R&B by the **II-V-I Orchestra**, a veteran local big band led by saxophonist David Swain. Cash bar. Silent auction of donated goods and services. Proceeds benefit the Lions Club, a service organization that primarily helps the visually impaired. 7:30 p.m., Eagle Crest Resort, 1275 S. Huron, Ypsilanti. \$50. Reservations requested by Feb. 5. 485-3579.

★**"Wiley and the Hairy Man": Huron High School Players.** See 4 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

★**International Folk Dancing.** Feb. 12 & 19. Balkan and Israeli dancing to live music by **Veselba** (Feb. 12) and to recorded music (Feb. 19). The Feb. 12 dance is preceded at 2:30-5:30 p.m. by a "Balkan Motifs Workshop" (\$10; students, \$8). The Feb. 19 dance is preceded at 8 p.m. by a lesson. 8-11 p.m. (Feb. 12), & 9-11 p.m. (Feb. 19), the barn at **Gretchen's House V**, 2625 Traver. \$10 (students, \$8) on Feb. 12, \$3-\$5 (students, \$1-\$3) on Feb. 19. 995-0011.

★**Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department.** Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the last several decades. Singles and couples invited. Refreshments. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lesson. 8-10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. \$5. 822-2120.

★**2nd Saturday Contra Dance.** Don Theyken calls to music by the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. 8-11 p.m., 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). \$10 (students, \$5). 408-1829.

★**Valentine's Ball: Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy.** Dancing to music from the early 1900s by the Huron Valley Serenaders. Vintage attire encouraged. Preceded at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. by dance workshops (\$10 each). 8-11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., Saline. \$30 (includes workshops). Preregistration requested at vintagedance.com. 769-0041, 426-0241.

★**Peter Madcat Ruth: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704 Coffeehouse.** As versatile and riveting a harmonica virtuoso as you'll ever hear, Madcat also plays guitar, high-hat, ukulele, jaw harp, banjo, kalimba, penny-whistle, and more, and his repertoire blends folk, blues, jazz, & rock 'n' roll. He's been praised by Dave Brubeck as one of the world's "great jazz soloists," and his repertoire includes all those songs you can't remember not knowing, from "Shortnin' Bread" and "Going Fishing" to "Sweet Home Chicago," along with several fine originals and songs by other contemporary composers. 8-10 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. \$8 (\$15 for 2). 665-0409.

★**"Well Being and the Arts": Cellocan.** Local cellist **Suzanne Smith** and local pianist **Katherine Collier** are joined by 2 Philadelphia-based musicians—violinist **Diane Monroe** and violist **David Giles**—for a chamber concert featuring Haydn's Piano Trio no. 3 in C Major, Kodaly's Duo for Violin and Cello, and Brahms' Piano Quartet in C Minor. Also, a talk by Cellocan director Smith on "Music, Mind, and Body." Proceeds go to the musical education of one or more African American middle school string players. 8 p.m., Genesis of Ann Arbor. 2309 Packard. \$20 (students, \$12; kids 12 & under, \$8) in advance and at the door. 662-2325.

★**"Mr. B's Annual Birthday Bounce": Kerrytown Concert House Club Series.** World-renowned local blues pianist Mark "Mr. B" Braun celebrates his birthday in this popular annual concert. An exuberant, powerful performer whose repertoire includes both boogie-woogie and blues classics and originals in the same mold, Mr. B has performed and recorded with world-class artists such as the late drummer J.C. Heard and Detroit percussionist Roy Brooks. Cash bar and some café seating. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$15-\$30 (students, \$10). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

★**Vijay Iyer Trio and Rudresh Mahanthappa's Apex: University Musical Society.** See review, p. 51. Double bill. Dubbed one of "today's most important pianists" by the *New Yorker*, Iyer leads his trio in his jazz compositions that draw on African, Asian, and European influences. His 2009 album, *Historicity*, was named #1 Jazz Album of the Year by NPR and the *Los Angeles Times*. The innovative and fiery New York-based jazz alto saxophonist Mahanthappa is joined by his quartet and the influential veteran alto saxophonist **Bunky Green** in works from Mahanthappa and Green's 2010 album, *Apex*. A *Village Voice* review says the album "storms in several different ways while wafting strains of South Indian music into the mix." 8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets \$16-\$42 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

★**"Corktown": Purple Rose Theatre.** See 2 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

★**"The Dance of the Seven Veils": New Theatre Project.** See 11 Friday. 8 p.m.

★**"The War Since Eve": Performance Network Professional Season.** See 3 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

★**"Little Women: The Broadway Musical": Encore Musical Theatre Company.** See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★**Kerri Louise: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase.** See 10 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★**"Comedy Held Hostage": Riverside Arts Center.** See 11 Friday. 8 p.m.

★**Zamir Chorale: Beth Israel Congregation.** This independent Jewish choir from Detroit performs a program TBA. Followed by an afterglow. 8:30 p.m., Beth Israel Congregation, 2000 Washtenaw. Free. 665-9897.

★**"Dreamland Tonight!": Dreamland Theater.** Ypsilanti blogger **Mark Maynard** hosts a live talk show in which he interviews puppet effigies of local and national celebrities. Also, live music TBA, comic sketches, and more. 10 p.m., Dreamland Theater, 26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. \$7. 657-2337.

13 SUNDAY

★**"Behind the Scenes Day": U-M Ruthven Museums.** A rare chance to meet the people behind and explore the inner workings of the 4 Ruthven museums—natural history, anthropology, paleontology, and zoology. Noon-5 p.m., 2009 Ruthven Museums, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764-0478.

★**U-M Women's Gymnastics vs. Nebraska & Stanford.** The U-M squad also has a meet this month against **Oklahoma** (Feb. 26, 4 p.m.). 1 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$3 (youths age 12 & under, \$1; U-M students, free). 763-2159.

★**"Valentine's Event": Leslie Science and Nature Center.** Family-oriented event with Valentine crafts and a chance to help LSNC's resident barn owl celebrate its 1st anniversary at the center. Snacks. 1-3 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$5. Preregistration requested. 997-1553.

★**"Chesstastic!": Ann Arbor District Library.** Everyone from kindergartners to adults invited to play chess. Chess sets provided. 1-4 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327-4200.

★**"Robots for Teens": Ann Arbor District Library.** Liberty Street Robot Supply & Repair staff show kids in grades 4-12 how to make their own robots. Supplies provided. 1-4 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★**"Ann Arbor Companion Bird Club.** All invited to bring a bird-related or other item to auction. Proceeds benefit the club's various avian causes. Bring

ragtime



The River Raisin Ragtime Revue

Joplin and more

The prime root of American roots music is ragtime. The love child of Sousa's marches and African Americans' syncopations, ragtime preceded jazz and was there at the birth of the blues. And though jazz and blues ultimately proved more popular, ragtime proved just as durable, with notable revivals in the 40s, 50s, and especially the 70s, when Marvin Hamlisch scored a major hit with Scott Joplin's "The Entertainer," from the score to *The Sting*.

In our time and place, the ragtime band to beat is the River Raisin Ragtime Revue. Based in Tecumseh and with a number of killer classical players from Ann Arbor in its ranks, the Revue has played gigs with the Detroit Symphony and run programs through Greenfield Village, as well as appearing once a season in town. This year, they'll be performing a Black History Month concert at the First Congregational Church on Sunday, February 13.

On the program will be music from Scott Joplin's epoch-making opera *Treemonisha* and from *Clorindy: The Origin of the Cakewalk*, the first African American musical revue to play on Broadway, plus assorted works by Jelly Roll Morton, Maceo Pinkard, James Reese Europe, and others. The Revue will be joined by the Metropolitan Opera soprano Anita Johnson for the Joplin as well as

selected intimate settings of chamber music by African American composers.

I've heard both of the Revue's CDs—*The Red Back Book: Standard High Class Rags* and *Ragtime Detroit! Michigan's Contribution to America's Original Music*—and they're snappy, snazzy, stylish, and altogether charming. Made up of five horns, a string quartet, piano, tuba, and drums, the Revue currently features such well-known local classical players as Kiri Tollaksen on cornet and Barbara Sturgis-Everett on violin, and it's a delight to hear the band cut loose on the merry melodies of "Maple Leaf Rag" and the robust rhythms of "Rastus on Parade."

The Revue isn't simply a latter-day cover band going through the motions of a dead musical form; these musicians are playing red-blooded music they know and love, and their performances make the most of its sly syncopations and spicy arrangements. It'll be a pleasure to hear them rip into Sydney Perrin's "We'll Raise the Roof Tonight," Joe Jordan's "That Teasin' Rag," and Jelly Roll Morton's "New Orleans Bump."

Soprano Anita Johnson is Ann Arbor-born and Ypsilanti-raised, and local audiences will remember her from her time at the U-M. A national audience remembers her from her drop-dead gorgeous performance of Stevie Wonder's "I Never Dreamed You'd Leave in Summer" at the White House last February at a ceremony honoring the composer. It'll be a particular pleasure to hear her take on Joplin.

—James Leonard

your bird. 1-3:30 p.m., *Animal Kingdom*, 4990 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 662-4582.

★"Orchid Trip to Borneo": Ann Arbor Orchid Society. Club member Jack Shumaker shows and discusses photos of his trip to Borneo to see orchids growing in the wild, some of which are found only on Mount Kinabalu. Also, an orchid show-and-tell, orchid sales, a raffle, and a chance to grill experts about problem plants. 1:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens auditorium, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 663-0756.

★Shape Note Singing: Ann Arbor Sacred Harp. All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Sacred Harp songbooks available, but singers encouraged to bring their own. 2-5 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 678-7549, 761-1451.

Old-Time Square Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Feb. 13 & 27. Square dancing to live music. Beginners welcome. No partner necessary. 2-5:30 p.m. (Feb. 13) & 4-7:30 p.m. (Feb. 27), Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). \$8 (students, \$5; kids age 14 & under with a parent, free). 994-6494.

★"The Printing of the King James Bible": U-M Hatcher Graduate Library. Talk by U-M Special

Collections Library curator Pablo Alvarez. 2-3:30 p.m., 100 Hatcher Graduate Library, enter from the Diag. Free. 936-2311.

★"Historic Churches of Saline": Saline Area Historical Society. Talk by First United Methodist Church (Saline) member Rich Merrill. 2 p.m., Saline District Library Brecon Room, 555 N. Maple, Saline. Free. 429-4154.

★"Wicked Washtenaw County: Strange Tales of the Grisly and Unexplained": Pittsfield Township Historical Society. Local historian James Mann discusses his new book about the dark side of county history, from unexplained murders to body snatchers. Signing. 2 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Community Center, 701 W. Ellsworth. Free. 971-2384.

"The War Since Eve": Performance Network Professional Season. See 3 Thursday, 2 p.m.

"Corktown": Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday, 2 p.m.

"Black History Concert": River Raisin Ragtime Revue. See review, p. 55. Tuba player William Pemberton leads this Tecumseh-based ensemble in a program celebrating Black History Month, highlighted by selections from Scott Joplin's opera *Treemonisha* with guest artist Anita Johnson, a Metropolitan Opera soprano (and Ann Arbor native) who is also featured in some other pieces on the program.

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Also, selections from the first all African American Broadway musical *Clorinda*, along with James Reese Europe's "Hey! There!", Cole and Johnson's version of "Oh Didn't He Ramble," Sidney Perrin's "We'll Raise the Roof Tonight," Luckey Roberts' "Helter Skelter," Jelly Roll Morton's "Original Jelly Roll Blues" and "New Orleans Bump," Joe Jordan's "That Teasin' Rag," "Lovie Joe," "I Am Waiting for You Honey Dear," and "Dat's Ma Honey Sho's Yo' Born," and others. 3 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William. \$25 (kids age 12 & under, \$10). 662-1679, (517) 413-1962.

"Little Women: The Broadway Musical": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 3 Thursday. 3 p.m.

"Rocky Horror Show": EMU Theater Department. See 11 Friday. 3 p.m.

★Booked for Murder Mystery Book Club: Nicola's Books. All invited to discuss *The Girl Who Played with Fire*, the 2nd in Swedish novelist Stieg Larsson's immensely popular trilogy about a journalist who this time works to uncover a Swedish sex trafficking scandal. 3:30 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 769-2149.

Children's Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. See 6 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

★EMU Symphonic Band and Concert Band: EMU Music Department. Amy Knopps directs these music student ensembles in a program TBA. 4 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★"All Ensemble Concert": Temple Beth Emeth. TBE music ensembles join together for a fast-paced performance. 4-5 p.m., TBE, 2309 Packard. Free. 665-4744.

Concertante: University Musical Society. This acclaimed New York-based string sextet is known for its warm, polished, buoyant sound. Today they perform Chopin's Piano Concerto in E Minor with Rafal Blechacz, a Polish pianist who performs a solo concert on Feb. 11 (see listing). The program also includes Schoenberg's *Verklärte Nacht* and Elgar's *Serenade for Strings*. 4 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets \$20-\$42 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

★"Maurice": Rainbow Book Club. All invited to join a discussion of E.M. Forster's posthumously published novel, a homosexual love story set in early 20th-century England. 4:30-7 p.m., Jim Toy Community Center, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 763-4168.

★Faculty Concert: Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts. Program TBA. 7 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 213-2000.

"10th Annual Dance on Camera Festival": U-M Dance Department. See 12 Saturday. 7 p.m.

Ballroom Dance Club at the U-M. Feb. 6, 13, & 27. Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 7 p.m. by beginning lessons and practice. 8-10 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. \$5. 763-6984.

"The Dance of the Seven Veils": New Theatre Project. See 11 Friday. 8 p.m.

14 MONDAY

★"Valentine's Day Duet": University Living Cultural Center. Violinist Maria Bessmeltseva and cellist Carrie Pierce, both U-M music grad students, perform a program of popular romantic and movie tunes. 2:30-3:30 p.m., University Living, 2865 S. Main. Free. Reservations requested. 669-3030, ext. 233.

★"Self-Hagiography Through Dreams and Visions": U-M Center for Near Eastern Studies. Talk by U-M CNES grad student Ozgen Felek. 4 p.m., 202 S. Thayer. Free. 764-0314.

★"The North Campus Research Complex, Technology Transfer, and the Public Interest": U-M Science, Technology, and Public Policy Program. Talk by U-M sociology professor Jason Owen-Smith. 4-5:30 p.m., 1110 Weill Hall, 735 S. State. Free. 647-3249.

★Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild. Members show and discuss their fiber art works. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. 7 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 665-0703.

★"General Grant and the Bottle": Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table. Amateur Civil War researcher Jim Epperson discusses facts and myths about Grant's alcohol consumption. 7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off McAuley Dr. from Huron River Dr.). Free. (517) 750-2741.

★"Heart and Meridian Test": Washtenaw Whole Foods Market. Talk by local chiropractor Shannon Roznay. 7-9 p.m., Whole Foods Cooking & Life-styles Classroom, 3135 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration required. 975-4500.

★"Is It Possible to Lower My Risk for Alzheimer's Disease?": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk

by U-M internal medicine professor Kenneth Langa. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4555.

★Ann Arbor Stamp Club. Members show and describe unusual stamps and covers in their collections and explain how they got them. Also, a mini stamp auction and APS circuit books. 7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park & enter at the rear of the building). Free admission. 761-5859.

★"Fresh Start: Providing Employment Opportunities in Washtenaw County": National Alliance on Mental Illness Washtenaw County. Talk by Fresh Start Clubhouse director Rose Dresner and Fresh Start vocational/job coordinators Renee Robb and Aaron Cook. 7:30-9 p.m., King of Kings Lutheran Church, 2685 Packard. Free. 994-6611.

★"The Idea Is the Machine That Makes the Art": U-M Contemporary Directions Ensemble. Christopher Lees directs this adventurous music student ensemble in works inspired by nonmusical art forms, such as visual art or literature. The program is highlighted by *Cruel Sister*, a string orchestra piece by NYC postminimalist composer and U-M composer-in-residence Julia Wolfe, inspired by an old English ballad about betrayal amidst familial love. The program also includes Hartke's *The Horse with the Lavender Eye* and Harbison's *Mirabai Songs*. In conjunction with the current UMMA exhibit, *Mai-Thu Perret: An Ideal for Living*, which is available for viewing from 7:30-8 p.m. 8 p.m., UMMA Apse, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0594.

"The Dance of the Seven Veils": New Theatre Project. See 11 Friday. 8 p.m.

15 TUESDAY

★"The Longest War: A Front-Line View of the U.S. Mission in Afghanistan": U-M Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies. Talk by Washington Post senior correspondent Rajiv Chandrasekaran, author of the award-winning *Imperial Life in the Emerald City: Inside Iraq's Green Zone*. Followed at 7 p.m. by a screening of *The Green Zone*, Paul Greengrass's 2010 thriller inspired by Chandrasekaran's book. 4-5:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-0351.

★"The Future of Asia's Cultural Past": U-M History of Art Department. Asia Society president Vishakha Desai discusses the study of premodern arts in China and India. 4:30-6 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 764-5400.

★"Drumunity!" Lori Fithian, a local drummer and drum teacher, leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. 7-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. 426-7818.

★"Learning Makes Life Worth Living": Ann Arbor District Library. Panel discussion with local residents who learned to read as adults. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★"Agent X": Nicola's Books. Best-selling writer Noah Boyd discusses the latest novel in his series about ex-FBI agent Steve Vail, who this time hunts down Russian spies with the help of a beautiful FBI assistant director. 7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★New Millennium Poetry at Sweetwaters. Reading by a featured reader TBA. Followed by an open mike for poets and other creative writers. 7-8:30 p.m., Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, 123 W. Washington. Free. 994-6663.

★"Orchestra Night": Ann Arbor Public Schools. This gala concert features hundreds of student performers in orchestras from all 5 Ann Arbor middle schools, plus the Huron, Skyline, and Pioneer symphony orchestras. 7 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 994-2314.

★"An American Icon: Protecting Utah's Redrock Wilderness": Huron Valley Sierra Club. A slide-illustrated talk by Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance Midwest regional organizer Clayton Daughenbaugh. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 665-0248.

16 WEDNESDAY

★"Mobility, Community, and the Power of Recognition in Africa's Global Cities": U-M Center for Afroamerican and African Studies. Talk by University of the Witwatersrand (Johannesburg) Forced Migration Program director Loren Landau. Noon, 4701 Haven Hall, 505 S. State. Free. 764-5513.

★Book Club: Ann Arbor Senior Center. All seniors age 50 & over invited to join Liz Gleich to discuss a book TBA at a2gov.org/senior. 12:30-1:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794-6250.

★**"Reading Is My Window: Books and the Art of Reading in Women's Prisons":** U-M Author's Forum. U-M English professor Megan Sweeney and Prison Creative Arts Project community and youth programs coordinator Mary Heinen discuss Sweeney's book about the reading patterns among women in several prisons across the U.S. 5:30 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Graduate Library, enter from the Diag. Free. 764-0400.

★**"A Lifetime of Creativity: Merce Cunningham and Defying Limitations":** UMMA. Panel discussion with Merce Cunningham Dance Company staff and U-M faculty about the late revolutionary modern dance choreographer. In conjunction with the MCDC performances on Feb. 18 & 19 (see listings). 6 p.m., UMMA Helmut Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★**"The Difference Between Old and Young: An Update on Medications and Aging":** Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by U-M geriatric medicine professor Alan Dengiz. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4555.

★**"Spring Migration in Veracruz":** Washtenaw Audubon Society. Slide-illustrated talk by EMU biology instructor Mike Kielb. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677-3275.

★**Culinary History Reading Group:** Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to join a discussion of *The Billionaire's Vinegar: The Mystery of the World's Most Expensive Bottle of Wine*, Benjamin Wallace's account of the controversy surrounding a bottle of wine allegedly owned by Thomas Jefferson. 7:30-9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

★**"Music Now Fest '11":** EMU Music Department. Feb. 16-18 (different programs). This biennial 3-day festival opens tonight with a recital by EMU music faculty and guest artists of 20th- and 21st-century solo and chamber music by Abbie Betinas, Leon Kirchner, Joseph Gurt, EMU music professor Anthony Iannaccone, and a world premiere by EMU marching band arranger Jason Ihnat. 8 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. All events free except the Feb. 23 "Festival Finale," which is \$8 (students & seniors, \$4). 487-2255.

"Corktown": Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

17 THURSDAY

"Discovering the Arts and Letters": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Every Thurs. (except Mar. 3), Feb. 17-Mar. 31. A series of 6 weekly lectures by different guest speakers. Open to anyone age 55 & over. Feb. 17: Purple Rose Theatre artistic director Guy Sanville on "The Play's the Thing: Developing New Scripts for the Stage." Feb. 24: U-M dance professor Peter Sparling on "New Adventures in Videodance: A Guide to Applications of Video Technology for Dancer and Dance Audience." Mar. 10: U-M music professor Martin Katz on "My Life as Collaborator." Mar. 17: U-M psychology professor Monique Ward on "A Woman's Worth: Exploring Contributions of Media Use to Black and White Students' Belief about Sex, Gender Roles, and Women's Bodies." Mar. 24: EMU art adjunct professor Roger Green on "Modernist Architecture in 1930s Tel Aviv." Mar. 31: U-M English professor Laurence Goldstein on "Growing Up, and Older, with Poetry." 10-11:30 a.m., Executive Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. \$50 (members, \$30) for the 6-lecture series, \$30 (members, \$10) per lecture. Memberships are \$20 a year. 998-9351.

★**"Sarah Caswell Angell":** Daughters of the American Revolution. Club members discuss the 19th-century woman who was married to U-M president James Angell and founded the local DAR chapter. 1 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. 975-1976.

★**"Third Thursday at the Map Library":** U-M Map Library. Display of early charts of the Great Lakes, a 25-foot-long scroll map of the Colorado River, a WWII pilot's cloth emergency map of ocean currents, and 17th-century nautical charts. Also, a video of U-M MFA student Collin McRae's animation in progress, "Stitch." Part of the U-M LS&A Water Theme Semester. 4-7 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Graduate Library, enter from the Diag. Free. 764-0407.

★**"The Moral Imperative of Higher Education in the Ecumenical Century":** St. Mary Student Parish. Talk by New York University president John Sexton. 4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre, 915 E. Washington. Free. 663-0557.

★**"How We Make It Through the Day: Social Judgment in Context":** U-M College of Literature, Science, & the Arts. Lecture by psychology professor Norbert Schwarz. Reception follows. 4:10

p.m., U-M Alumni Center Founders Room, 200 Fletcher. Free. 998-6251.

★**U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series.** See 10 Thursday. Today: poetry reading by Carl Phillips, an award-winning poet whose collection *Speak Low* was a finalist for the 2009 National Book Award. His forthcoming collection, *Double Shadow*, examines human impulses that are variously at odds and at peace with each other. 5:10 p.m.

★**"Managing Caregiver Guilt":** Jewish Community Center Caregiver Conversations. All invited to join a discussion. 6:30-8 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 769-0208.

★**Cathy Park Hong:** EMU English Department Bathhouse Reading Series. Reading by this Sarah Lawrence College English professor, a widely published poet known for her treatment of Korean American themes and for her use of an invented polyglot dialect. 6:30 p.m., EMU Student Center Auditorium, 900 Oakwood (between Washtenaw & N. Huron River Dr.), Ypsilanti. Free. 487-1310.

★**"The Truth About Fat and Cholesterol":** Cranbrook Whole Foods Market. Talk by local chiropractor Mark Perlmutter. 7 p.m., Whole Foods, 990 W. Eisenhower Pkwy., Cranbrook Village shopping center. Free. 997-7500.

★**"The Spiritual Journeys of Couples":** Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room Salon. Panel discussion with Deep Spring Center vipassana meditation teachers Susan and Lou Weir and Siddha yoga practitioners Helen and Laz Slomovits. Moderated by Crazy Wisdom owner Bill Zirinsky. 7-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

"Little Women: The Broadway Musical": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 3 Thursday. 7 p.m.

"Rocky Horror Show": EMU Theater Department. See 11 Friday. 7 p.m.

★**"Revealing Buried Archaeological Remains Using Geophysical Techniques":** Michigan Archaeology Society. U-M Museum of Anthropology research scientist Tim Horsley discusses ways to locate, map, and characterize archaeological remains without ever digging in the ground. 7:30 p.m., U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, 434 S. State. Free. (248) 437-4183.

★**"Plenty of Fish in the Sea: Evolution and Conservation of Marine Biodiversity in Pacific Coral Reefs":** U-M Exhibit Museum. Talk by U-M postdoc research scientist Josh Drew. 7:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764-0478.

★**"Women in Music":** Washtenaw Community Concert Band. Guest conductor Amy Knopps conducts the women of this 80-member adult band—formerly the Ypsilanti Community Band—in works by women composers. The program is highlighted by Julie Giroux's *Italian Rhapsody* and features Washington, D.C., piccolo soloist Nan Raphael. 7:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towles Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 252-9221.

"Arms and the Man": U-M Theatre Department. Feb. 17-20. Philip Kerr directs U-M theater students in Shaw's perennially popular 1894 romantic comedy satirizing romantic and nationalistic pretensions. Set in war-torn Bulgaria, the action centers around a passionate young aristocratic woman whose sentimental notions of love and war are challenged by an abrasively no-nonsense Swiss mercenary who has taken refuge from battle in her home. 7:30 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, Michigan League. Tickets \$18 & \$24 (students, \$10) at the Michigan League in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

"Our Country's Good": U-M Theatre Studio. Feb. 17-20. Malcolm Tulip directs U-M musical theater students in Timberlake Wertenbaker's fascinating drama, an often funny but also dark and disturbing exploration of the beginnings of Australian society and culture that won the 1988 Laurence Olivier Play of the Year Award. The action is set in the 1780s, during the early days of the Australian penal colonies, where an English lieutenant decides to stage a production of Farquhar's *The Recruiting Officer*. During rehearsals, the convicts and their keepers learn to see themselves and each other in new, unexpectedly liberating ways. (Yes, musical theater students: they're working on their acting skills.) 7:30 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets \$16 (students, \$9) at the Michigan League in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

★**Joan Raeburn Holland:** U-M School of Music. Performance by this U-M harp professor. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baitz Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★**"Music Now Fest '11":** EMU Music Department. See 16 Wednesday. Tonight: EMU music faculty and guest artists perform chamber works by this year's guest composer, Dan Welcher, a popular contemporary American composer whose concertos, symphonies, chamber works, and operas are regu-

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larly performed by orchestras and opera companies around the country. Program: *High Tech Etudes, Seven Songs on Poems of e.e. cummings*, and *Woodwind Quintet no. 5*. Also, at 11 a.m. today, Welcher discusses and plays excerpts from his work, and at 1 & 3 p.m., open rehearsals of William Bolcom's music by EMU music student ensembles. 8 p.m.

"Tell Me the Truth about Love": Kerrytown Concert House. U-M music school students and faculty perform love songs. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

Billy Brandt & Sarana VerLin: Music Under the Arch. This 2010 Detroit Music Award-winning folk-rock singer-songwriter duo performs a blend of Celtic and Americana music they call "Celticana." Opening act is local singer-songwriter **Samantha Sevik**. 8 p.m., Stone Arch Arts & Events, 117 S. Ann Arbor St., Saline. Tickets \$15 & \$20 (students, \$10) in advance at Spotted Dog Winery (108 E. Michigan Ave., Saline) and by phone. 316-2118.

"Equus": Blackbird Theatre. Every Thurs.-Sat. Feb. 17-Mar. 19. Sarah Lucas directs local actors in Peter Shaffer's portrait of a psychiatrist whose work with an alleged horse mutilator in a mental hospital leads to unsettling, shocking revelations. Cast: Lee Stille, Evan Mann, Alysia Kolasz, Amy Griffith, Brenda Lane, and Sean Sabo. Note: for mature audiences. 8 p.m., Blackbird Theatre, 325 Braun Ct. Tickets \$10-\$20 (Feb. 17-19 previews) & \$15-\$25 (all other dates) in advance at blackbirdtheatre.org. 332-3848.

"Corktown": Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Mark Sweeney: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Feb. 17-19. This Chicago native is a very funny monologist known for his fresh, sharp observational humor about various aspects of contemporary life and culture. A frequent performer on cable TV, he has also made guest appearances in several series, including *Third Rock from the Sun* and *Boston Public*. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). \$7 (Thurs.) & \$10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$9 (Thurs.) & \$12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

18 FRIDAY

"Afghanistan's 2014: A Photojournalist Capturing a War Without End": U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies. Photojournalist **Iason Athanasiadis** shows and discusses photos he took in Afghanistan in 2005 and 2010. Fluent in Farsi, he has interviewed former Taliban militants. 4-5 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-0350.

Gaming Tournaments: Ann Arbor District Library. Feb. 18-21. Video game tournaments and open play. Feb. 18: "Wii Party" and "PS Move" open play for all ages, 6-8:30 p.m. Also this month: Feb. 19: "Madden Football" open play for all ages, 10-11 a.m., and an invitation tournament (information at aadl.org/madden), 3-5:30 p.m. Feb. 20: "Wii Sports Resort" tournament for all ages, 1-4 p.m. Feb. 21: "PokeMania!" Pokemon tournament for all ages, 1-5 p.m. Various times, AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

"Artini 2011 Martini Crawl": Ann Arbor Art Center Fund-Raiser. All invited to visit several downtown restaurants to taste martinis created for the occasion. Mardi Gras attire encouraged. 7 p.m., begins at the Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. \$40 in advance at annarborartcenter.org by Jan. 17; \$45 after Jan. 17. 994-8004, ext. 120.

Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. See 11 Friday. Today: prose by Angela Watrous and poetry by Russ Brakefield. 7 p.m.

"Rocky Horror Show": EMU Theater Department. See 11 Friday. 7 p.m.

Ann Arbor Kirtan. All invited to join a group performance of this traditional devotional call-and-response music based on Hindu Vaishnava texts and the writings of poet-saints. Accompanied by live music based on rhythmic Indian ragas on bass guitar, tabla, and drums. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Friends Meeting-house, 1420 Hill St. Free, but donations accepted. 761-7435.

"Amtrak—40 Years Old This Year": Ann Arbor Train & Trolley Watchers. Club members give short presentations about the history of Amtrak. 7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church lower small classroom, 306 N. Division ("just up the hill from the Amtrak station"). Free. 996-8345, 971-8329.

"The Play's the Thing": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. Feb. 18-20 (different programs). Local actors read new works by local playwrights. Followed by audience feedback. Tonight: "Show Me Your Shorts," a series of 10-minute plays. 7:30 p.m., A2CT Studio, 322 W. Ann. Free. 971-2228.

Lewis Black

Suffering no fools

I first saw Lewis Black at the Michigan Theater several years ago (he's back there on February 19). He gave what seemed to be a rambling monologue that began with jokes about the Old Testament and the plight of Jews, circled around through Christian prejudice, politics, and other territory, and brilliantly returned to its origins—a masterly comic lecture of sorts. It was a tour de force, deconstructing myths, prejudice, pretense, and religion.

But what I remember most about that performance isn't the mastery of material, the perfect comic timing, or the sheer intelligence (Black has a way of skewering inanity that is both logical and outrageous). It was his remarks to the audience, which indicated a fine grasp of Ann Arbor sentiment. Several times after making a politically incorrect remark, he pointed out how most of the audience had started to laugh but then stifled its amusement. Black was contemptuous. "You know what you just did?" he scoffed.

Finally, after four or five such moments, Black stopped his routine, walked around the stage in what seemed to be genuine rage, and sputtered loudly: "There! You did it again! You started to giggle and then—silence! You have to stop doing that! That kills comedy!"

Black is such a cauldron of indignant anger—it's what fuels his comedy, and it never lets up—that the rage seems more than an act. And in his scolding of the Ann Arbor audience it was both genuine and merited. Political correctness does eviscerate Black's humor. One of his main targets is pretense of all stripes—and he is an equal-opportunity ridiculer.

A year ago, I saw Black again at the Royal Oak Music Theater, and his act seemed less coherent. He growled about the growing

indignation



expectations of him now that he has become a more mainstream act, sometimes booked to open for, say, country singers.

I sense that Black may also have a problem with the shift in rage on the political spectrum. The angry old white man persona has been somewhat co-opted by Tea Party types, folks that Black would find insufferable but who have squatted on his territory of anti-Establishment invective.

Still, Black has taken the long comic tradition of indignation and perfected it for an age in which just about anything—from oil companies to politicians to celebrities—can make your blood boil. That Black can boil it for you—and then skewer your own insecurities and pretenses—makes him quite discomfiting. Yet his consternation is still so justifiable, the logic of his rage so incontrovertible, that his anger doesn't seem so much an act as a vehicle for our own vituperation. Just don't kill his jokes with uptightness—or he may come down off the stage and throttle you.

—Michael Betzold

Faraway Places Singles Dance: Parents Without Partners. All singles invited for an evening of socializing and dancing to recorded 70s to contemporary dance music played by a DJ. Cash bar. 8 p.m.-midnight, Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. \$8 (PWP members, \$6). 578-3664.

University Symphony Orchestra: U-M School of Music. Kenneth Kiesler conducts this music student ensemble in Shostakovich's powerful 10th Symphony. With a performance by one of the U-M 2011 Concerto Competition winners. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0594.

Available Jelly: Kerrytown Concert House. This jazz quintet from the Netherlands plays an eclectic mix of jazz, world music, and popular songs, with clever arrangements by reedman Michael Moore that leave room for lots of improvisation. Other members include cornettist Eric Boeren, trombonist Wolter Wierbos, tubaist Gregg Moore, and drummer Michael Vatcher. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$10-\$25 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

Nathan Bell: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Veteran Nashville singer-songwriter known for his fresh, literate takes on a wide assortment of subjects from love, families, and war to muscle cars and factory towns. Desserts & coffee available. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$12 (kids age 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665-8558.

Merce Cunningham Dance Company: University Musical Society. Feb. 18 & 19. When Merce Cunningham first appeared in Ann Arbor with his dance company in 1971, he was booed off the Hill Auditorium stage—one of many incidents that prompted Mikhail Baryshnikov to observe that Cunningham "reinvented dance and then waited for the audience." Cunningham died in 2009, leaving behind a plan for the dissolution of his company, including a 2-year "legacy tour" that ends in December 2011. The program draws on more than 150 of Cunningham's

works, which regularly push the envelope of the body's expressive potential and of the way the body is perceived. 8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets \$20-\$54 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

"Music Now Fest '11": EMU Music Department. See 16 Wednesday. Tonight: EMU music student ensembles perform 3 works by the festival guest composer **Dan Welcher** (see 17 Thursday), along with Ian Clarke and EMU music professors Whitney Prince and Anthony Iannaccone. Also, at 3 p.m. in Alexander Recital Hall, Welcher participates in a discussion of contemporary music with a panel of composers and the audience, and at 1 p.m. in Pease, open rehearsals of Welcher's music by EMU music student ensembles. 8 p.m.

"Little Women: The Broadway Musical": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 3 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Dance of the Seven Veils": New Theatre Project. See 11 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Arms and the Man": U-M Theatre Department. See 17 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Our Country's Good": U-M Theatre Studio. See 17 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Equus": Blackbird Theatre. See 17 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Corktown": Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Mark Sweeney: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 17 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

19 SATURDAY

Winter Fleece Fair: Spinner's Flock. A huge array of Michigan-grown fibers for spinning and felting, such as mohair, alpaca, llama, Angora bunny, and wool. Also, skins, quilting batts, yarn, roving, gifts, rugs, garments, and supplies for spinning, weaving, and knitting (including spinning wheels and dyes). Members offer demos throughout the day. 10 a.m.-4

p.m., Beach Middle School, 445 Mayer, Chelsea. Free admission. Wheelchair-accessible. 747-8112, 769-1657.

★**Joe Reilly: Ann Arbor District Library.** This popular local singer-songwriter presents an interactive program of environmental songs for kids in grades K-3. 10-10:45 a.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4555.

★**"Water Creatures": Ann Arbor District Library.** U-M Exhibit Museum of Natural History staff explore some of the organisms that have adapted to living in water. For kids in grades K-5 accompanied by an adult. 10-11 a.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower between Stone School & Packard, & 2-3 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4555.

★**"18th Annual Winter Walkabout": Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy.** All invited for snacks, warm drinks, and socializing, followed at 2 p.m. by a drive 1 mile south for a leisurely 90-minute walk through the 424-acre LaFarge Woods Nature Preserve to look for animal tracks and enjoy the winter landscape. Dress for the weather. 1:15 p.m., Superior Township Hall, 3040 N. Prospect at Cherry Hill, Superior Twp. For the walk only, park on Vreeland just east of Prospect. Free; donations accepted. 484-6565.

★**"Polar Plunge": Special Olympics Michigan Fund-raiser.** Brave costumed swimmers plunge into icy water. All invited to give it a try or just watch. Followed by a party with food and prizes. Registration for plungers begins at 1 p.m. 2 p.m., U-M Golf Course, 500 E. Stadium. \$50 (free to watch). Pre-registration for plungers recommended at somi.org. (800) 644-6404.

Joel Hastings: First Baptist Church. This nationally renowned Canadian-born Ann Arbor-based pianist, a U-M grad who was a 3-time winner of the music school's annual concerto competition, performs Cuban composer Ernesto Lecuona's *Suite Andaluca*, sonatas by Scarlatti and Beethoven, and Liszt's mighty transcription of Wagner's Overture to *Tannhauser*. 4 p.m., First Baptist Church, 517 E. Washington. Free. 663-9376.

★**"All of Me": Vocal Arts Ensemble.** Ben Cohen directs this 28-voice chamber choir in cabaret-style performances of Broadway and Hollywood songs. Also, dinner. 5:30 p.m., Kensington Court Hotel, 610 Hilton Blvd. (off S. State just past Briarwood). Tickets \$55 in advance only by Feb. 11. vocalartsannarbor.org. 998-0115.

★**"Winter Beach Blast": Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Fund-Raiser.** A beach-themed party with live entertainment by Steve Iott, a Michigan comedian who's appeared on Comedy Central and opened for Jay Leno. Followed by live music by 50 Amp Fuse, a very popular Detroit band that plays 70s and 80s classic rock. 6:30 p.m.-1 a.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., Saline. Tickets \$35 in advance at cfpartyforbreath.com and at the door. 429-2269.

★**"Rocky Horror Show": EMU Theater Department.** See 11 Friday. 7 p.m.

★**"Just Past the Snow Moon—Winter Bonfire and Hike": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.** Cocoa with marshmallows around the fire, followed by a hike led by WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner to listen for night sounds and watch the moon rise. Dress in layers. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings (north off North Territorial), Webster Twp. Free. 971-6337, ext. 334.

★**"24th Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark.** Feb. 19 & 20. Performances by top-notch storytellers from around the country and the state. Headliners are Andy Offutt Irwin, a Georgia storyteller known for his astonishingly mutable voice and hilarious stories that blend madcap antics with the narrative drive of a Southern balladeer, and Motoko, a Japanese storyteller known for her intertwining of ancient lore and original tales with lyrical movement and traditional music. Opening acts are Barbara Schutzgruber, an award-winning local storyteller who specializes in tales that combine narration, song, and string illustrations, and Dick Strader, a Marshall storyteller who specializes in trickster stories and other folktales from around the world. 7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$20 (Feb. 19) & \$10 (Feb. 20 family concert) in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, & all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

★**"The Play's the Thing": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre.** See 18 Friday. Tonight: "One Is the Loneliest Number," readings of several one-act plays. 7:30 p.m. 3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. With live music. No partner needed; beginners welcome. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. Preceded by a lesson at 7:45 p.m. 8-11 p.m., Pittsfield

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Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). \$10. 426-0241.

Heather Schwartz Duo: TeaHaus. Vintage jazz and blues by talented local singer Schwartz and guitarist Alex Belhaj. Hot tea. 8 p.m., TeaHaus, 204 N. Fourth Ave. \$5. 622-0460.

Paul Finkbeiner's Atmospheric Disturbance: Kerrytown Concert House Club Series. Jazz quartet led by local trumpeter Finkbeiner. Cash bar and some café seating. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15-\$30 (students, \$10). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

"Kamikaze Theater": U-M Residential College Players. RC students present one-act plays that have been conceived, written, and rehearsed within the past 24 hours. 8 p.m., RC Keene Theater, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647-4354.

Merce Cunningham Dance Company: University Musical Society. See 18 Friday, 8 p.m.

"Corktown": Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday, 3 & 8 p.m.

"Little Women: The Broadway Musical": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 3 Thursday, 8 p.m.

"The Dance of the Seven Veils": New Theatre Project. See 11 Friday, 8 p.m.

"Arms and the Man": U-M Theatre Department. See 17 Thursday, 8 p.m.

"Our Country's Good": U-M Theatre Studio. See 17 Thursday, 8 p.m.

"Equus": Blackbird Theatre. See 17 Thursday, 8 p.m.

Lewis Black: Live Nation. See review, p. 58. This acclaimed humorist, a regular political commentator on *The Daily Show* who calls himself "America's foremost commentator on everything," is known for his biting, razor-witted commentary, often in a tone of astonished, incipiently apologetic outrage, on human folly in its various guises. His new book, *I'm Dreaming of a Black Christmas*, rips into such seasonal traditions as Christmas cards, advertising and shopping, trees, and caroling. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$37-\$57 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, Ticketmaster.com, & all other Ticketmaster outlets. To charge by phone, call (800) 745-3000.

Mark Sweeney: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 17 Thursday, 8 & 10:30 p.m.

20 SUNDAY

41st Annual Show: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club. The Midwest's largest model railroad flea market draws model railroaders, collectors, and train buffs from all over to display, trade, and sell model railroad equipment and memorabilia. Also, displays of model train operating layouts and a raffle. Concessions. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saline Middle School, 7190 N. Maple, Saline. \$6 (scouts in uniform and kids age 9 & under with adult, free). 426-0829.

"Amigurumi Crochet Happy Fun!": Ann Arbor District Library. Hands-on introduction to the Japanese art of crocheting small stuffed toys. For adults & youth in grade 6 & up. 1-4 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4555.

"24th Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark. See 19 Saturday. Today's show is a family concert. 1 p.m.

"In Search of Winter Stoneflies and Snow Fleas": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a hike along Fleming Creek to look for these winter insects. 2-4 p.m., Parker Mill County Park, Geddes Rd. just east of US-23. Free. 971-6337, ext. 334.

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. All children and their parents or grandparents invited for contra and square dancing with live music. 2-4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). \$12 per family. 769-1052.

"The Dexters of Massachusetts: Washtenaw County's Connection to a Prominent American Family": Dexter Area Historical Society. Talk by DAHS cofounder Frank Wilhelme. 2 p.m., Dexter District Library, 3255 Alpine St., Dexter. Free. 426-2519.

"Electric Trolleys of Washtenaw County": Washtenaw County Historical Society. Local writer Mark Hildebrandt discusses his photographic account of local trolleys in the 1890s and their subsequent demise. 2-4 p.m., Chelsea Retirement Community, 805 W. Middle St., Chelsea. 662-9092, 475-8633.

"Family of Freedom: Presidents and African Americans in the White House": U-M Ford Presidential Library. 2008 Gerald R. Ford Journalism Award-winner Ken Walsh discusses his new book about past presidents' racial attitudes and how they were shaped by the African Americans surrounding them. 2 p.m., Ford Library, 1000 Beal. Free. 205-0555.

"The Play's the Thing": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 18 Friday. Today: "I Can't Believe I Read the Whole Thing," a reading of a full-length play TBA. 2 p.m.

"Arms and the Man": U-M Theatre Department. See 17 Thursday, 2 p.m.

"Our Country's Good": U-M Theatre Studio. See 17 Thursday, 2 p.m.

"Corktown": Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday, 2 p.m.

"Dreaming a Place: Environmental Dance and Movement Meditation": Nightfire Dance Theater. Nightfire director Irena Nagler leads a session of environmental dancing in an outdoor setting, accompanied by music and other sound, visual art, and poetry. No experience necessary; children must be accompanied by an adult. Bring drinking water and whatever protection you need from the elements. 2:30 p.m., Island Park, 1450 Island Dr., off Maiden Lane between Broadway & Fuller. \$5-\$25 sliding scale. 996-1772.

"Little Women: The Broadway Musical": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 3 Thursday, 3 p.m.

"Black History Program": New Hope Baptist Church. Performances TBA by church members in honor of Black History Month. Past performances have included poetry readings, skits, liturgical dances, and choir performances. 3:30 p.m., New Hope, 218 Chapin. Freewill offering. 994-4620.

"American Classical Roots": Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra. This volunteer community orchestra directed by Adam Riccinto is joined by the suburban Milford teen bluegrass trio *Cats and the Fiddler*. Program TBA. 3:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. \$10 (seniors & kids under age 12, \$5; family of up to 2 adults & 2 kids under age 12, \$25) in advance at ypsilantisymphony.org and at the door. 507-1451.

Children's Puppet Shows: Dreamland Theater. See 6 Sunday, 3:30 p.m.

"Culinary Metier: Butchering Meat": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor. Talk by Hiller's Market butcher Steve Rupp. 4-6 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794-6250.

Takacs Quartet: University Musical Society. This renowned 27-year-old ensemble of 2 Hungarian and 2 British "string alchemists" is known for its warmth, eloquence, and discipline and for the ease with which it masters demanding pieces. According to a *Gramophone* review of the quartet's current Schubert program, "The Takacs have the ability to make you believe that there's no other possible way the music should go, and the strength to overturn preconceptions that comes with only the greatest performers." Program: Schubert string quartets in B-flat major, A minor, and G major. 4 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. \$24-\$48 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

"Community Drum Circle": Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers. Percussionist Curtis Glatter leads a free family-friendly drum circle. Bring a drum if you have one. 5-6 p.m., Body-Mind-Spirit Wellness Centers Studio B, 2007 S. State. Free. 945-8602.

"King Lear": University Musical Society. Tape-delayed live broadcast of the National Theatre (London) production of Shakespeare's harrowing yet sublime story of an aging king who decides to divide his kingdom among his 3 daughters. 7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$22 (Michigan Theater & UMS members, \$18; students, \$12) in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

University Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music. U-M grad students conduct this music student ensemble in world premieres of works by grad student composers. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0594.

"Lysistrata": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration. U-M drama lecturer Kate Mendeloff directs RC students in Ellen McLaughlin's adaptation of Aristophanes' bawdy masterpiece of classical Greek comedy. The women of Athens conspire to withhold their favors from their warrior husbands until the constant warring of rival cities ceases. Both sides suffer from the sexual strike, and the dramatic question becomes which side will give in first, and on what terms. 8 p.m., RC Keene Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647-4354.

"The Dance of the Seven Veils": New Theatre Project. See 11 Friday, 8 p.m.

21 MONDAY (President's Day)

"Climate Change Policy in the Great Lakes Basin": U-M School of Public Policy Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy. Panel discussion with Muhlenberg College (Allentown, PA) Institute of Public Opinion director Christopher Borick, University of Montreal political science lecturer Erick

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Lachapelle, and U-M School of Public Policy professor Barry Rabe. 4-5:30 p.m., 1120 Weill Hall, 735 S. State at Hill. Free. 647-4091.

★**Embroiderers Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects, socialize, and learn about guild activities. 7 p.m., United Way, 2305 Platt. Free to visitors (\$30 annual dues for those who join). 975-4348.

★**"Shrinky Dink Craft Sensation":** Ann Arbor District Library. All adults and kids in grade 4 & up invited to see what they can make using Shrinky Dink plastic. Material provided. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Mallets Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4555.

★**"The Color of Wealth":** Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice Racial Justice Book Group. All invited to join a discussion of the 4th chapter of this collection of essays about the ways people of color have been barred by laws and discrimination from participating in wealth-building programs that benefit white Americans. 7 p.m., St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 1679 Broadway. Free. Child care available with advance notice. 663-1870.

★**"Members Turn":** Ann Arbor Women Artists. Club members give short slide-illustrated talks about their artwork. 7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 996-2551.

★**EMU Percussion Ensemble:** EMU Music Department. John Dorsey directs this music-student ensemble in a program of works in an eclectic mix of rhythms and instrumental timbres. 7:30 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★**"Nature Nurtures Mental Well Being":** Michigan Botanical Club. Talk by U-M nursing professor Bernadine Cimprich. 7:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. (810) 923-5860.

★**"The Dance of the Seven Veils":** New Theatre Project. See 11 Friday. 8 p.m.

22 TUESDAY

★**"Make Way for Spring":** U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Feb. 22-25. Spring break activities for kids accompanied by a parent. Feb. 22: "Paper Story," a chance to make cards and stationery out of recycled paper and natural materials. Feb. 23: "Fanciful Fairy Garden," a scavenger hunt to look for fairies and trolls in the Conservatory. Followed by a chance to build a fairy garden or fairy door to take home. Feb. 24: "Bathtub Bouquets," a chance to make bubble baths and sachets. Feb. 25: "Sketchbook Detectives," a chance to sketch various plants. 10 a.m.-noon, Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. \$5 (includes Conservatory admission). Preregistration required. 647-7600.

★**"Snip & Shred: Geeky Crafts!":** Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades K-5 invited to join David Erik Nelson, author of *Snip, Burn, Solder, Shred: Seriously Geeky Stuff To Make With Your Kids*, for a craft activity. 1-3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-4555.

★**"Big TOP Revue II":** Ann Arbor Summer Festival Fund-Raiser. A 3-course dinner with strolling and staged vaudeville and cabaret performances. Followed by coffee and late-night follies. Circus couture, vintage chic, or cocktail attire encouraged, especially beads, boas, and bangles. Dinner is preceded at 6 p.m. by a cocktail reception with hors d'oeuvres. 7 p.m., Gratz, 326 S. Main. Tickets \$150 in advance at annarborsummerfestival.org or by phone. 994-5999.

★**"Mark Twain's Feast":** Zingerman's Roadhouse. Chef Alex Young and U-M Clements Library Center for American Culinary Research curator Jan Longone host a dinner featuring traditional American foods Twain (in *A Tramp Abroad*) reported he missed while traveling throughout Europe. 7 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. \$45 (beverages not included). Space limited; reservations required. 663-FOOD.

★**"Lipizzaner Stallions":** EMU Convocation Center. Feb. 22 & 23. World-renowned Florida-based horse show featuring 12-14 stallions performing selected dressage maneuvers, concluding with the traditional Grand Quadrille. 7:30 p.m., EMU Convocation Center, 799 N. Hewitt (north off Washtenaw), Ypsilanti. Tickets (price TBA) in advance at the Convocation Center and at the door. 487-2282.

★**Jazz Ensemble:** EMU Music Department. Donald Babcock directs this music student ensemble in a variety of charts with guest soloist Ellen Rowe, a U-M jazz piano professor. 7:30 p.m., EMU Pease Auditorium, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

23 WEDNESDAY

★**Brown Bag Organ Series:** U-M School of Music. See 9 Wednesday. Today: Brandon Spence. 12:15 p.m.

★**"Library Lover's Book Collage":** Ann Arbor District Library. All kids from preschoolers through 5th graders invited to make a colorful cover for a favorite book. 2-3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★**"After the Humanities":** U-M Institute for the Humanities Marc & Constance Jacobson Lecture. Lecture by Harvard University Humanities Center director Marjorie Garber, a renowned authority on Shakespeare, the role of the humanities, and aspects of popular culture, including sexuality. 5:30-7 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 936-3518.

★**Robot Club.** All invited to meet robotics hobbyists and check out and discuss their current gadgets and toys. 7 p.m., A2 Mech Shop, 240 Parkland Plaza (off eastbound Jackson between Wagner & Zeeb). Free. (517) 618-9546.

★**"Duct Tape Re-Do":** Ann Arbor District Library. Craft project for kids in grades 6-12. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Mallets Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327-4555.

★**Ann Arbor Bonsai Society.** Greater Louisville Bonsai Society member George Buehler discusses the tools necessary to work with bonsai. 7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 747-6439.

★**Kim Harrison: Waters Place Borders.** This South Carolina-based best-selling novelist reads from *Pale Demon*, the 9th in her Rachel Morgan series of supernatural novels about a feisty witch who's been shunned by the higher-ups in the magical world. This time, Morgan develops her demonic magical powers while on a cross-country road trip to the annual witch convention in San Francisco. 7 p.m., Borders, 3140 Lohr Rd. Free. 997-8884.

★**History of Science Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to join a discussion of *Earth: An Intimate History*, British paleontologist Richard Fortey's fascinating description of Earth's geological history, from a time when the Appalachians extended all the way to Scotland to speculation about a future in which the continents become one again. 7:30-9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

★**"Lipizzaner Stallions":** EMU Convocation Center. See 22 Tuesday. 7:30 p.m.

★**Ed Sarath Ensemble: UMMA Jazz Series.** Jazz by this local ensemble led by U-M music professor Sarath, an acclaimed flugelhorn player and composer. 8 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★**Kodo: University Musical Society.** A return visit from this Japanese men's percussion ensemble, celebrated worldwide for powerful, athletic performances that blend primitive rhythms with classical and jazz music and martial arts movements. The group's name means both "heartbeat" and "children of the drum," and the heart of the ensemble is the *o-daiko*, a huge drum carved from the trunk of a single tree and played by two men. The ensemble also includes the *taiko* (an ancient Japanese drum), xylophone, gong, bamboo flute, and more. "Superlatives don't really exist to convey the primal power and bravura beauty of Kodo," says a *Chicago Tribune* reviewer. "The speed and dexterity are as impressive as the physical tenacity is breathtaking." The company was founded in 1971 as a communal society on the isolated Sado Island in the Sea of Japan. When not on tour, Kodo members follow a daily routine of practice and rigorous exercise to maintain the stamina necessary for their performances. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$10-\$52 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

★**"Corktown":** Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

★**"Comedy Jamm":** Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

24 THURSDAY

★**"Under the African Sky":** Wild Swan Theater. Feb. 24-26. This award-winning local children's theater presents a series of African folktales in celebration of Black History Month. With drumming and other music. As with all Wild Swan productions, the performance is interpreted in American Sign Language. Audio description and backstage "touch" tours are available by prearrangement for blind audience members. Appropriate for kids ages 4-10. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets \$12 (kids, \$8) in advance and at the door. 995-0530.

★**"Tea with the Fairies":** Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Crazy Wisdom staff dress up as fairies to sprinkle fairy dust and serve tea, petits fours, and cookies to kids and their families. Also, fairy stories and readings. Bring your own fairy wings and dolls. 1 & 4 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. \$10.50 (babies age 18 months & younger, free). Preregistration required. 665-2757.

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★**"Doug Scheer: The Laugh Factory"**: Ann Arbor District Library. This veteran educational entertainer presents a program of wacky jokes, off-the-wall games, insane contests, and magic stunts for preschoolers through 5th graders. 2-3 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd., & 7-8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327-8301.

★**U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series**. See 10 Thursday. Today: readings by poet **Suzanne Hancock** and fiction writer **Valerie Laken**—both U-M grads. Poet Thomas Lynch says of Hancock's debut collection, *Another Name for Bridge*, "There is such power and precision in Ms. Hancock's poems—not a syllable out of place, not a line surplus to requirements, producing a kind of tensile strength by which the most carefully considered choice in words, a language utterly free of adornment or affectation, bears abundant tidings, heavy traffic and rich cargo." Laken is best known for her acclaimed 2009 debut novel, *Dream House*. Her forthcoming collection of short stories, *Separate Kingdoms*, has "an amazing poignancy that never lapses into the maudlin," says fiction writer and poet Charles Baxter. "What I find so striking about this book is the way that separate worlds—seemingly foreign or even bizarre to each other—are brought together and forced to converse, to try to love each other. There is considerable erotic energy in such a meeting." 5:10 p.m.

★**"Vintage Hollywood Affair II"**: Neutral Zone Fund-raiser. A gala with music by local teens and a screening of Ann Arbor Film Festival short films. Followed by a dance party with DJ Forest Juziuk. Red carpet attire. 7-11 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$35 in advance at neutral-zone.org or by phone; \$40 at the door. 214-9995, ext. 231.

★**"Bright Ideas"**: U-M Basement Arts. Feb. 24-26. Emily Lyon directs Eric Coble's dark comedy about 2 yuppie parents who go to violent extremes to get their 3-year-old into the best preschool. 7 p.m., U-M Walgreen Drama Center Studio 1, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Free. basement.studentorgs.umich.edu.

★**"The Grand Duchess of Gerolstein"**: Comic Opera Guild. Feb. 24-26. Thomas Petiet directs area singers in Jacques Offenbach's operetta about a love-lorn monarch who promotes a handsome but inept soldier to commander-in-chief. 8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Tickets \$20 (students with ID & seniors, \$17) in advance at the Michigan Union. To charge by phone, call 763-8587.

★**Hyunjin Lim**: EMU Music Department. This EMU grad performs a variety of works TBA for solo piano. 8 p.m., EMU Alexander Recital Hall, Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★**"The Music of Forrest Pierce"**: U-M Residential College. Local soprano **Jennifer Goltz** and RC music faculty cellist **Katri Ervamaa** are joined by Duo Solo, the Oklahoma-based duo of pianist Mike Kirkendoll and flutist Mary Fukushima, for a program of rich, daring music by this young contemporary composer. Program: The song cycle *The Wild Iris*, *Moses and the Shepherd*, works for flute and piano, and selections from *Need-Fire*, a cycle of medieval lays. 8 p.m., RC Keene Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647-4354.

Hot Club of Detroit: Kerrytown Concert House. This popular Django Reinhardt-style jazz quintet, led by fast-fingered Reinhardt disciple **Evan Perri**, is known for its fresh spin on Gypsy jazz. They often veer from the Reinhardt repertoire with intriguing originals and Gypsy-style covers of big band tunes and other genres. Their virtuoso musicians include accordionist **Julien Labro**, saxophonist **Carl Cafagna**, guitarist **Paul Brady**, and bassist **Andrew Kratzat**. Tonight, they're joined by 2010 Thelonious Monk Vocal Competition finalist **Cyrille Aimee**. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15-\$30 (students, \$10). Reservations recommended. 769-2999.

★**"Equus"**: Blackbird Theatre. See 17 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★**"Corktown"**: Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Vince Morris: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Feb. 24-26. Ann Arbor debut of this Columbus-bred comic, a ubiquitous presence on cable TV known for his engaging personality and penchant for shifting gears between thought-provoking humor and downright silliness. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). \$8 (Thurs.) & \$11 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$10 (Thurs.) & \$13 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

25 FRIDAY

★**"Experience the Magic: Wolverine Classic 2011"**: Gym America. Feb. 25-27. Women gymnasts compete in this national level competition. Complete schedule available at gymamericagymnastics.com. 9

a.m.-9 p.m. (tentative), Saline Middle School gymnasium, 7190 N. Maple, Saline. Admission \$11 (kids & seniors, \$6; age 4 & under, free). 971-1667.

★**"Under the African Sky":** Wild Swan Theater. See 24 Thursday. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

★**"The Ishmel Sisters: Road to the White House":** University Living Cultural Center. The Flint trio of young sisters Jarinne, JaShanna, and Janel Ishmel performs a wide range of tunes from gospel and jazz to Broadway and classical. (The girls have their sights set on performing at the White House.) 2-2:45 p.m., University Living, 2865 S. Main. Free. Reservations requested. 669-3030, ext. 233.

★**"Bright Ideas":** U-M Basement Arts. See 24 Thursday. 7 & 11 p.m.

★**"Dawn Dance Weekend":** Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Feb. 25-27. A weekend of folk dancing to live music, with around 400 people expected to dance or just listen to the many fine musicians. Tonight in the gym: Rick Mohr calls **contras** to music by **Crowfoot**. In the cafeteria: Joseph Pimentel leads **English country dancing** to music by **Goldcrest**. Wear clean, soft-sole shoes for dancing (no dancing in street shoes allowed). 8 p.m.-midnight, Clague Middle School, 2616 Nixon Rd. just east of Bluff. \$22 (Feb. 25), \$18 (Feb. 26 afternoon), \$22 (Feb. 26 evening), & \$20 (Feb. 27) at the door. Weekend pass \$63 (AACTMAD members, \$58; \$15 discount for those age 25 & under) in advance only by Feb. 15 at aactmad.org/ldw. (248) 255-2713.

Danny Schmidt: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Austin-based singer-songwriter who writes piercing, imaginatively complex songs about love, loss, and longing that have provoked comparisons to Townes Van Zandt and Leonard Cohen. His music ranges from Appalachian mountain gospel and haunted English balladry to synopated Piedmont country blues and 60s protest. He recently released his Red House debut, *Instead the Forest Rose to Sing*. Desserts & coffee available. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$15 (kids age 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665-8558.

★**"The Dance of the Seven Veils":** New Theatre Project. See 11 Friday. 8 p.m.

★**"Equus":** Blackbird Theatre. See 17 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★**"Corktown":** Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

★**"The Grand Duchess of Gerolstein":** Comic Opera Guild. See 24 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Vince Morris: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 24 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

26 SATURDAY

★**"Maple Sugaring: A Journey to the Sugar Bush":** Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Every Sat. & Sun., Feb. 26-Mar. 27. Naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck discusses the history of maple sugaring and leads a hike to a stand of maple trees to see how they are tapped, followed by a trip to an evaporator to learn how sap is turned into syrup. Also, pancake and sausage breakfast (\$5.50; kids, \$3.50) available 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 10 & 11 a.m. and noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. \$2. Preregistration required. \$4 vehicle entrance fee. 426-8211.

★**"Under the African Sky":** Wild Swan Theater. See 24 Thursday. 11 a.m.

★**"Dawn Dance Weekend":** Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. See 25 Friday. Today: In addition to dances, there are workshops at 1:30 & 3 p.m. and a music jam at noon. Dances in the gym: Joseph Pimentel leads **English country dancing** to music by **Crowfoot** (noon-1:15 p.m.), **Cape Breton dancing** to music by **Crowfoot** (1:30-2:45 p.m.), Michael Hamilton calls **contras** to music by **Fiddlefire** (3-4:30 p.m.). Also, evening dances to music by **Fiddlefire** (7:30-9:30 p.m.) and **Crowfoot** (9:50 p.m.-midnight). In the cafeteria: Rick Mohr calls **grid squares** to music by **The Millers** (noon-1:15 p.m.), Ed Vincent calls **contras** to music by **Goldcrest** (1:30-2:45 p.m.), Dan Blim leads **Scottish country dancing** to music by **Goldcrest** (3-4:30 p.m.). Also, evening dances include **modern dances** (7:30-9:10 p.m.) and other dances (9:30-11:15 p.m.) to music by **Goldcrest**, **waltzing** to recorded music (till midnight), and a **"Dawn Dance Roots Party"** with music by **Fiddlefire** (12:30-2 a.m.). Noon-4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.-2 a.m.

★**"Serious Science":** Leslie Science and Nature Center. LSNC leads family-oriented experiments exploring the physics and chemistry of the natural world. 1-3 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Preregistration required. \$8 (family, \$30). 997-1533.

★**"Happy Birthday Elmo!":** Borders. Kids ages 3-6 invited to celebrate Elmo's birthday with music, stories, crafts, and more. 2 p.m., Downtown Borders (612 E. Liberty), Arborland Borders (3527 Washtenaw), & Waters Place Borders (3140 Lohr Rd.). Free. 668-7652 (Downtown), 677-6948 (Arborland), 997-8884 (Waters Place).

★**"Black History Puppet Show":** Ann Arbor District Library. Popular Kalamazoo puppeteer Sid Ellis presents a program for kids in grades K-5 celebrating Black History Month. 2-3 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 327-4555.

★**Annual Fund-Raising Banquet: Washtenaw County Pheasants Forever.** Buffet dinner, live and silent auctions, and raffles. 5:30 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Tickets \$60 (couples, \$90; kids, \$25) includes membership. Reservations required. 740-7300.

★**"Bright Ideas":** U-M Basement Arts. See 24 Thursday. 7 p.m.

★**"Corktown":** Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday. 3 & 8 p.m.

★**"The Dance of the Seven Veils":** New Theatre Project. See 11 Friday. 8 p.m.

★**"Equus":** Blackbird Theatre. See 17 Thursday. 8 p.m.

★**"The Grand Duchess of Gerolstein":** Comic Opera Guild. See 24 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Vince Morris: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 24 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

27 SUNDAY

★**"Dawn Dance Weekend":** Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. See 25 Friday. Today in the gym: **waltzing** to recorded music (10-11:40 a.m.), Rick Mohr calls **contras** to music by **Crowfoot** (12:15-3:30 p.m.). In the cafeteria: **clogging workshop** with Travis Arderegg (10-11:15 a.m.), Joseph Pimentel leads **advanced English country dancing** (12:15-1:15 p.m.) and **English country dancing** (1:30-3 p.m.) to music by **Goldcrest**. Also, **shape note singing** (10-11:15 a.m.). 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

★**"Native American Lore of the Detroit Area, 1701-1842":** Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County. Talk by Bloomfield Hills genealogist David Irwin. Followed by **"There Are No Dumb Questions in Genealogy,"** a Q&A with a panel of club members. 1:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off McAuley Dr. from E. Huron River Dr.). Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483-2799.

★**Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. 2-4 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971-5763.

★**"Corktown":** Purple Rose Theatre. See 2 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

★**Aaron Tan: Ypsilanti Pipe Organ Festival.** This young local organist performs English Romantic music, including Edward Elgar's Sonata in G Major and works by Bridge, Parry, Stanford, and Whitlock. 3 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 300 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Free. Ypsipipes.org.

★**Dexter Community Band.** Bill Gourley directs this 85-member volunteer ensemble in a program highlighted by Huebler's Concerto for Four Horns and Wind Band, Cesarini's *Byzantine Mosaics*, and Dello Joio's Emmy-winning *Scenes from the Louvre*. Also, Takahashi's *Vision of the Isle of the Gods*, Chance's Variations on Korean Folk Songs, Yo Go-to's arrangement of Puccini's Fantasy on *Madame Butterfly*, Grainger's "Children's March," and Sousa's "Hands Across the Sea." 3 p.m., Dexter Center for the Performing Arts, Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker, Dexter. Free. 426-2734.


★**Children's Puppet Shows:** Dreamland Theater. See 6 Sunday. 3:30 p.m.

★**Society of Women Engineers Book Club.** All invited to join a discussion of the 2011 Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads selection, *Life Is So Good*, Richard Glaubman's book, cowritten in 2000 with the late George Dawson (1898-2001), an African American man who had learned to read at age 98. The book concerns Dawson's life and what wisdom he gathered from it. 4 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668-7652.

★**"The Dance of the Seven Veils":** New Theatre Project. See 11 Friday. 8 p.m.

28 MONDAY

★**"The Dance of the Seven Veils":** New Theatre Project. See 11 Friday. 8 p.m.



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Type 2 Diabetes and Neuropathy Research Study

This 18 month study will test if Exenatide (Byetta®), an approved diabetes medication, improves signs and symptoms of neuropathy. Neuropathy symptoms include **numbness, tingling, burning, or prickling feelings in the feet**, and are often worse at night. Participants will be randomly assigned to take twice daily injections of exenatide or once daily injections of insulin glargine. The study nurse will teach you how to give yourself injections.

If you are 18 to 70 years old, have type 2 diabetes and symptoms of neuropathy, you may qualify. You cannot be in the study if you currently take insulin, exenatide (Byetta®), Januvia, Janumet, Onglyza, or Victoza.

Study medications are provided at no charge. There is no cost for medical examinations and laboratory tests required by the study. Eligible participants receive \$25.00 per completed visit.

For more information, please contact Cathy Martin at 734-936-6465 or at martinc@umich.edu.

IRBMED # HUM00018940 Principal Investigator: Rodica Pop-Busui, MD, PhD
Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Metabolism, Endocrinology and Diabetes

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Music at Nightspots

by John Hinchey

Listings are based on information available at press time. Updated schedules are posted at arborweb.com, but it may be advisable to call ahead.

The Ark

316 S. Main

761-1451

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional music. Shows almost every night at 8 p.m. Mon-Sat., & 7:30 p.m. Sun. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are sold in advance at Herb David Guitar Studio and the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. **Feb. 1: "African Guitar Summit."** All-star 9-member ensemble featuring 6 Canadian guitarists of African origin who are all masters of their ancestral musical cultures: **Alpha Yaya Diallo** of Guinea, **Pa Joe** of Ghana, **Adam Solomon** of Kenya, **Mighty Popo** of Burundi/Rwanda, and **Donne Roberts** and **Madagascar Slim** of Madagascar. \$30. **Feb. 2: Frank Vignola.** Acoustic jazz trio led by this renowned guitar virtuoso whose music blends gypsy jazz with rock, swing, blues, and bluegrass flavors. With guitarist Vinny Raniolo and accordionist Julien Labro. \$20. **Feb. 3: Ann Doyle & Doug Howell.** Local duo of Doyle, a gifted singer-songwriter who writes searchingly passionate, brightly figured lyrical ballads that she sings in a voice that is at once ethereal and earthy, and Howell, who accompanies Doyle on guitar and performs one or two of his own songs, along with songs from *Jimmy & Me*, his brand-new CD of Jimmy Webb covers. \$15. **Feb. 4: Hoots & Hellmouth.** Experimental roots music band from Philadelphia led by singer-songwriters Rob Berliner and Sean Hoots. \$17.50. **Feb. 5: Yiddish Cup.** Acclaimed Cleveland-based klezmer band known for its blend of ensemble virtuosity and wacky humor rooted in a 50s Borscht Belt ethos, with a repertoire ranging from traditional material to "Gentile on My Mind" and "Meshugeneh Mambo," the title track of its latest CD. The band is joined tonight by local Hawaiian steel guitar virtuoso Garland Ross and the Temple Beth Emeth choir **Kol Halev** directed by cantor Annie Rose. Dance floor available. \$20. **Feb. 7: Caravan of Thieves.** Gypsy-flavored acoustic swing by this Bridgeport, CT, quartet led by the husband-and-wife duo of Fuzz and Carrie Sangiovanni. \$12.50. **Feb. 8: Kurt Elling.** Elling is a celebrated jazz vocalist from Chicago with a rich, octave-leaping baritone who's been named Male Vocalist of the Year in the *DownBeat* readers poll and the *Jazz Times* critics poll every year since 2000. Elling possesses awesome command of rhythm, texture, phrasing, and dynamics, often sounding more like a virtuoso jazz musician than a mere singer, and his idiosyncratic blend of soulful crooning, scat, vocalese, and spoken-word improvisations provoked Artie Shaw to call him "the most interesting and innovative jazz singer to come along in years." Elling's latest CD, *Dedicated to You: Kurt Elling Sings the Music of Coltrane and Hartman*, is part of Lincoln Center's American Songbook Series. \$30. **Feb. 9: The Wallers.** Legendary Jamaican reggae band led by bassist Aston "Family Man" Barrett, who has been a member of the band since its heyday with Bob Marley. Opening act is **Duane Stephenson**, a Jamaican roots-reggae singer. \$30. **Feb. 10: The Battlefield Band.** One of the key forces in the revival of interest in Scottish music that began in the mid-70s, this acclaimed quartet plays everything from ancient Celtic tunes on Highland pipes to traditional and original Scottish songs, along with occasional forays into American pop. \$20. **Feb. 11: Kruger Brothers.** See review, above. This trio featuring the Swiss brother duo of guitarist Uwe Kruger and banjoist Jens Krueger and New York City bassist Joel Landsberg plays spirited renditions of traditional American folk and bluegrass spiced with European classical- and preclassical-flavored improvisations. \$15. **Feb. 12: Mustard's Retreat.** Longtime local favorites Michael Hough and David Tamulevich perform a wide variety of original and traditional songs and ballads about everyday life. According to songwriter Garnet Rogers, Mustard's Retreat "represents everything that is best about folk music. Their songs have entered the lexicon of anonymous folk songs." Both Hough and Tamulevich are accomplished guitarists, and they also play banjo, mandolin, flute, autoharp, harmonica, and tin whistle. \$15. **Feb. 13: My Folky Valentine.** In-the-round performances by Annie and Rod Capps and other performing couples, including

The Kruger Brothers

A Swiss appreciation of the Appalachian landscape

The Kruger Brothers, Jens and Uwe, first heard American roots music when their father brought folk records home to Switzerland from his business trips. They struck out on their own as street musicians, Jens on banjo and Uwe on guitar, when they were sixteen, and in the small Swiss musical market they had to master a variety of genres. Jens Kruger came to the U.S. in 1982, where he studied bluegrass for several months under Bill Monroe. Returning to Switzerland with instructions to develop his own style, he spent what he describes as days and nights learning as many tunes as he could. In 1986, he and Uwe added American bassist Joel Landsberg to form the direct ancestor of their current trio, the Kruger Brothers.

The brothers have a sort of mystical love of Appalachian culture and landscape that shows up in their music. After making a splash at North Carolina's Merlefest in 1997 and gaining a small but intense coterie, they settled in North Carolina in 2003. Their playing combines a meditative, conversational feel with extreme instrumental rigor and detail; Jens Kruger is one of the fastest banjo players on the planet when he wants to be, but most often he applies his speed to subtle ornament and elaboration. Banjo players know him as the source of techniques unheard of elsewhere in the instrument's world.

The majority of the brothers' pieces are instrumental; those with lyrics on their latest release, *Between the Notes*, involve an old man



PHILIP ZANON

sneaking out of a nursing home, a bluegrass treatment of a love poem by Christina Rossetti, various people who reflect on the impermanence of life while watching clouds roll by, the aftermath of a late winter storm with spring in the air, and a depiction of the figure of Jason from the mythical story of the golden fleece. The music still features a banjo as lead instrument, but the brothers point out that they're not a bluegrass band—there's no fiddle or mandolin—and bluegrass is less pervasive now than influences that seem to come from the world of classical music: *Between the Notes* is full of Renaissance-era modal harmonies that make the banjo sound like a rich-voiced and somewhat twangier lute.

There are hints of jazz, and even of minimalism, all boiled down to a very tight trio format. Most pieces qualify as complex, but they never lose a relaxed, luminous quality.

The Kruger Brothers appeal to those who enjoy the forward edge of new acoustic music—Darol Anger, Bela Fleck, maybe Chris Thile or Nickel Creek. But the mixture of elements in their music is unique, and the visitor to their concerts has a very strong sense of having entered a charmed corner of the musical universe. The Kruger Brothers come to the Ark (see Nightspots), where they have a devoted group of fans, on February 11.

—James M. Manheim

the local blues duo **Shari Kane & Big Dave Steele**, Virginia neo-honky-tonk songwriters **Doug & Telisha Williams**, and Nashville bluegrass songwriters **Jeff & Vida**. \$15. **Feb. 15: Gentecorum.** Montreal acoustic power trio whose music blends Quebecois traditional music with contemporary idioms. Its performances feature strong 3-part vocal harmonies and rich instrumentation, including wooden flute, fiddle, acoustic guitar, jaw harp, electric bass, and foot percussion. \$16. **Feb. 16: Buckwheat Zydeco.** Buckwheat Zydeco is the stage name of Stanley Dural, a celebrated zydeco accordionist who, legend has it, took up the instrument in response to a challenge from zydeco king Clifton Chenier, in whose band Dural was playing keyboards. Dural's brand of this joyous Creole music with the distinctive zigzag beat has a very strong blues bias, with a large dose of New Orleans R&B. \$20. **Feb. 17: Rory Block.** One of the best traditional blues singers around, this longtime local favorite is a deft, exciting finger-picking guitarist, and she sings both traditional and original material in a voice that glides easily between delicate lyrical shadings and powerful declamation. Taj Mahal calls her "very simply the best there is," and *Blues Underground Network* calls her new CD, *Blues Walkin' Like a Man: A Tribute to Son House*, "one of the highest notes of her brilliant career." \$17.50. **Feb. 18: The Good Lovelies.** Pop-folk with a strong Western swing flavor by this all-female trio from Toronto known for their clever songs, sharp 3-part vocal harmonies, and often convulsively funny repartee. Their eponymous debut CD won a 2010 Juno for Roots Album of the Year. \$15. **Feb. 20: Cheryl Wheeler.** This versatile veteran singer-songwriter is known for her hauntingly pure voice, biting sense of humor, and alternately poignant and whimsical songs about human relationships and everyday life. Her songs have been recorded by the likes of Suzy Bogguss, Nanci Griffith, Maura O'Connell, and Bette Midler, and her latest CD, *Pointing at the Sun*, is a rich musical blend of folk, country, rock, and pop influences. \$25. **Feb. 21: Bobby Long.** Highly regarded young NYC-based English songwriter known for his finely crafted, hauntingly poetic songs. His debut CD, *A Winter Tale*, is due out this

month. Opening act is the winner of the Ark at the UMMA Student Songwriter Series, **Match by Match**, the new local postpunk pop-folk duo of guitarist Gray Bouchard and accordionist Melissa Coppola. \$15. **Feb. 22: John Pointer.** Austin singer-songwriter who uses rhythmic guitar work, acrobatic vocals, and stomping to create the sound of a full acoustic band. FREE. **Feb. 23: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. Fifteen acts are selected randomly from those who sign up to perform 8 minutes (or 2 songs) each. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. \$3 (members & students, \$2). **Feb. 24: Asylum Street Spankers.** Offbeat, neohippie dance music by this acoustic septet from Austin, Texas, that sets goofy lyrics to a high-spirited amalgam of blues, hot jazz, ragtime, old-time country, and just about any other genre of pre-WWII American music it can find. Led by singer-songwriter (and washboard player) Wammo and vocalist Christina Marrs, the band features guitars, bass, banjo, mandolin, ukulele, kazoo, and saw. This may be your last chance to see this band, which says it is disbanding at the end of its current tour. \$17.50. **Feb. 25: "Break-Fest 2011."** A benefit for the St. Andrew's Episcopal Church breakfast program for the homeless. The all-acoustic program features performances by former Bothy Band and Patrick Street traditional Irish fiddler **Kevin Burke**, U-M music faculty composer-pianist **Stephen Rush**, UK-based finger-style guitar virtuoso **Duck Baker**, and the Manchester Cajun & Creole quintet **Creole du Nord**. \$30. 7 p.m. **Feb. 26: Susan Werner.** Talented young singer-songwriter known for a jazz-inspired, classically trained vocal style she describes as "pop illiterate," Werner writes incisive, vividly imagined songs in a variety of moods. Werner's recent CDs include *The Gospel Truth*, a collection of songs surveying contemporary attitudes toward the church, ranging from neotraditional bluegrass gospel and hand-clapping rousers to sharply observed comic songs to an up-tempo call-and-response number wondering whether there's a God at all. Warner has a brand-new album, *Kicking the Beehive*. Opening act is **David Berkeley**, a highly regarded young singer-songwriter

who writes passionately direct, astutely observed songs on a variety of personal themes. \$20. **Feb. 27: Jeremy Kittel Band.** Kittel is a nationally up-and-coming fiddle virtuoso from Saline, a National Scottish Fiddle Champion, and U-M music school jazz grad whose extremely eclectic repertoire ranges from Scottish, Irish, and Cape Breton fiddle tunes to jazz, bluegrass, traditional Appalachian tunes, and originals that draw on all these genres. *Folk World* writer Alex Monaghan describes his new CD, *Chasing Sparks*, as "over an hour of fiddle music, from the devilish to the divine, played by a consummate musician whose style and repertoire sit somewhere between Nashville and Nairn." \$15. **Feb. 28: Studebaker John & the Hawks.** Chicago blues band led by singer, slide guitarist, and blues harpist John Grimaldi. \$15.

The B-Side

310 E. Washington

214-9995

This all-ages venue in the Neutral Zone teen center features a mix of touring, local, and teen bands, usually Sat. 7-11 p.m. Cover, dancing. **Feb. 5: Fields of Industry.** Lansing ambient folk-rock quartet. Opening act is **Jane Collins**, a local pop-soul singer-songwriter. **Feb. 12: "Bust Out the Jams."** Release party for this new CD on the Neutral Zone's Youth Owned Records label with performances by several teen acts featured on the record, including the funk band **Sole Transit**, the glam-rock band **Space Cadet**, the ska and reggae band **Space-Based Adventure**, the folk-rock band **The Architects**, the one-man industrial band **Kaustikutt**, and hip-hop MCs **Gamebol** and **O.D.D.** **Feb. 19 & 26: TBA.**

The Black Pearl

302 S. Main

222-0400

This seafood and martini bar features live music Tues. & Wed. 7-10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Tues.: Laith Al-Saadi.** Soulful acoustic rock and blues covers and originals by this local singer-guitarist. **Feb. 2: Laith Al-Saadi.** See above. **Feb. 9: Beth Stalker & Jim Rawlings.** An eclectic mix

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of styles, from blues, R&B, and jazz to rock and country, by the Detroit Music Award-winning duo of singer-songwriter Stalker and songwriter-guitarist Rawlings. **Feb. 16: Jody Raffoul.** Canadian pop-rock singer-songwriter who's been described as a hybrid of Bono and Bruce Springsteen. He is joined by backup vocalist and guitarist **Wes Buckley.** **Feb. 23: Chris Genteel.** Rock and soul covers and originals by this local singer-songwriter.

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St. 996-8555

This local music club features live music 5 nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-of-town rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 10:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted). Also, occasional early shows, usually 7-10 p.m. Karaoke on Mon.; closed most Sun. If there's an opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Cover (except "Showcase Night"), dancing. If advance tickets are sold, they are available at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all other Ticketmaster outlets. **Feb. 1: Tapes 'n' Tapes.** Highly regarded experimental postpunk pop quartet from Minneapolis that recently released its 3rd CD, *Outside*. Opening act is **Oberhofer**, a Brooklyn (NY) quartet that plays catchy, raucous lo-fi guitar-based pop-rock. Advance tickets: \$12. **8 p.m. Feb. 2: Chris Webby.** All ages admitted. Fairfield (CT) hip-hop MC. Opening act is **Gamebol**, a Saline High hip-hop MC. Advance tickets: \$10 (\$12 at the door). **8 p.m. 3: The Appleseed Collective.** Local acoustic quartet whose music is an enchanting blend of lyric-based folk rock with Dixieland and gypsy jazz rhythms and harmonies. Opening acts are Detroit singer-songwriter and accordionist **Maray Fuego**, the local guitar-and-drums blues-folk-rock duo **Del Brutto**, and singer-songwriter **Brandon Weiner.** **Feb. 4: Ann Arbor Soul Club.** Classic soul music by the local DJ duo of Brad Hales and Robert Wells. **Feb. 5: "Bob Marley Birthday Bash."** Headliner is **Universal Xpression**, a veteran Detroit-based band that plays reggae, soca, and calypso. Opening acts TBA. **8 p.m. Feb. 8: "Showcase Nights."** With 4 different young local bands each week. **Feb. 10: The Ultraviolet Hippopotamus.** Progressive-funk jam band from Big Rapids. Opening act is **JimKata**, an Ithaca (NY) progressive electro-rock quartet. **Feb. 11: Macpodz.** All ages admitted to the early show. Immensely popular local jam band that plays an invigorating mix of R&B, soul, rock, and hard jazz it calls "disco bebop." Opening acts are local percussionist **Dan Piccolo**, local saxophonist **Dan Bennett**, the versatile local R&B singer-bassist **Jamie Register**, local hip-hop MCs **Kyle Hunter** and **Kadence**, and the soul-inflected hip-hop singer and rapper **Nickie P.** Advance tickets: \$10. **7 & 9:30 p.m. Feb. 12: The Bang!** Dance party with this local DJ collective that plays garage and 70s rock. **Feb. 15: "Showcase Nights."** See above. **Feb. 16: TBA.** **Feb. 17: Mazinga.** Veteran Ypsilanti band that plays rough, raw, Detroit-style rock 'n' roll. Opening acts are **Bantha Fodder**, a veteran local punk band, and **Fuckin' A**, a local punk-rock trio. **Feb. 18 & 19: TBA.** **Feb. 22: Badfish: A Tribute to Sublime.** This popular Rhode Island trio plays the music of Sublime, the influential early 90s California reggae-inflected pop-punk band. Advance tickets: \$15. **Feb. 23-26: TBA.**

The Circus

210 S. First St. 913-8890

This 2nd-floor downtown club features live music on Wed. & occasional other nights 10 p.m.-2 a.m. DJ on Thurs. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover, no dancing (unless otherwise noted). Also, live music or karaoke on Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. in the street-level **Millennium Club** or basement **Cavern Club** (cover with dancing in these clubs). Karaoke, Thurs.-Sat., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Age 21 & older admitted on Wed. & Thurs., age 18 & older on Fri. & Sat. **Feb. 2: Dragon Wagon.** Local experimental acoustic roots-music band. **Feb. 5: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular, veteran band from Dearborn. Cover, dancing. In the Millennium Club. **Feb. 9: Black Jake & the Carnies.** Popular Ypsilanti octet that calls its energetic, foot-stomping blend of punk, old-time music, and bluegrass "crabgrass." *All Music Guide* writer Steve Leggett calls it "a kind of raucous acoustic Americana that tosses postmodern Appalachian murder ballads, Irish drinking songs, skewed, twisted love songs and general cautionary tales into a stylistic blender that has them sounding like nothing so much as a maverick, hopped-up punk polka band in full 21st-century everything-fits-jug band mode." **Feb. 16 & 23: TBA.** **Feb. 26: Killer Flamingos.** See above.

Conor O'Neill's

318 S. Main 665-2968

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. 7:30-10 p.m. and Thurs. & Sat. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., and a DJ on Fri. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Karaoke on Sun., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. Followed at 10 p.m. by karaoke. **Feb. 3: JIVA.** Groove-oriented, melodic pop-rock with ethereal guitar textures by this Detroit band. **Feb. 5: Toppermost.** Local Beatles tribute band. **Feb. 10: Nick Strange Band.** Popular local jam-prog rock trio led by singer-guitarist Strange that plays originals with an eclectic mix of influences from Miles Davis and Ruben Blades to Bob Marley and early 70s rock, along with an occasional country cover. With drummer John Churchville and bassist Sam Monroe. **Feb. 12: Joshua & Jeremy Sprague.** An eclectic mix of rock covers by these local brothers. **Feb. 17: Lucas Paul Band.** Local quartet led by pop-rock singer-songwriter Paul. **Feb. 19: Michael May & the Messarounds.** Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist May. **Feb. 24: Mossy Moran.** Traditional singer from Ireland. **Feb. 26: K.T.'s Alibi.** Redford pop-rock quartet led by vocalist Katie Jimmerson.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room

114 S. Main 665-9468

Tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music Thurs.-Sat. 8:30-10:30 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Feb. 3: Los Renaissance Men.** Local improvisational ensemble that uses a variety of electronic and acoustic instruments. **Feb. 4: Team Love.** Local trio led by singer-songwriter and bassist Tim Berla that plays originals and covers in an eclectic mix of styles, from jazz, swing, and Latin to country. With clarinetist and percussionist Charles Dayringer and guitarist Kip Godwin. Tonight they are joined by vocalist Julia Papastavridis. **Feb. 5: Joe Reilly.** Local singer-songwriter whose songs draw on blues, Native American, and other traditional American idioms to address spiritual and ecological themes. **Feb. 10: At Average.** New Berkley (MI) folk rock trio led by guitarist-mandolinist Nathan Schleicher. With violinist Emily Carlson and bassist Nic Cole-Klaes. **Feb. 11: John Churchville.** Local tabla player, accompanied by several musician friends, who plays Indian classical, light classical, fusion, and folk music. **Feb. 12: Katseye.** Local acoustic duo of Kathy Gravin and Kathy Wieland known for their rich, resonant vocal harmonies and for their varied repertoire of traditional songs, covers, and Wieland's witty thoughtful originals about women's lives. With bassist Rob Nuhn. **Feb. 17: No music.** **Feb. 18: Ghost City Searchlight.** Dearborn postpunk quartet whose music draws on Celtic and American folk idioms. **Feb. 19: The Potter's Field.** Americana roots duo of singer-songwriters Rochelle Clark of Chelsea and John Natiw of Canton. **Feb. 24: Woody Goss.** Acoustic keyboard, drums, and alto saxophone experimental trio. Opening act is **Kevin Thibodeau**, a White Lake alt-folk singer-songwriter. **Feb. 25: Heather Styka.** Highly-regarded young pop-folk singer-songwriter whose engagingly melodic, stylishly literate songs have provoked comparisons to the likes of Joni Mitchell and Suzanne Vega. **Feb. 26: February Sky.** Chicago-based duo of guitarist, banjoist, and dulcimer player Susan Urban, a singer-songwriter who writes story songs and humorous slice-of-life vignettes, and guitarist Phil Cooper, who sings original arrangements of traditional and contemporary songs.

Creekside Grill and Bar

5827 Jackson Rd. 827-2737

The intimate basement bar in this restaurant in Scio Township features occasional live music. Cover, dancing. **Feb. 27: II-V-I Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late-1930s swing and 1940s R&B. With vocalists Jim Tarravantes and Patty O'Connor. 6:30-9 p.m.

Dreamland Theater

26 N. Washington Ypsilanti 657-2337

This downtown Ypsilanti theater features occasional live music, 9-11 p.m. or later. Cover (usually a donation), no dancing. **Feb. 4: Red Tail Ring.** Appalachian folk and old-time music with haunting vocal harmonies by the local duo of singer-songwriters Michael Beauchamp and Laurel Premo. Opening acts are local singer-songwriter **Chris Bathgate**, the Ypsilanti pop-folk trio **Little Island Lake**, and **Joshua Barton.** **Feb. 11: Nightlife.** Local keyboard-based pop duo of Darin Rajabian and Caroline Myrick. Opening acts are the Detroit-area pop-rock band **Silverghost**, the Grand Rapids electronica-pop band **Stepdad**, and the Ypsilanti psychedelic soul band

Bad Indians. **Feb. 19: Calvin Johnson.** Indie pop by this K Records founder and cofounder of the influential Olympia (WA) lo-fi indie band Beat Happening. Opening act is **Swimsuit**, a new local indie rock quartet led by City Center and Saturday Looks Good to Me frontman Fred Thomas.

Elbow Room

6 S. Washington Ypsilanti 956-0526

This Ypsilanti tavern, reopened under new management and with a new sound system, features live music Mon. 10 p.m.-1 a.m., and Tues., Wed., Fri., & Sat. 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, hip-hop and dubstep DJs on Thurs. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. and techno and dubstep DJs on Sun. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Every Mon.: "Spaceheater Monday."** Jam session hosted by veteran local R&B, funk, jazz, and rock keyboardist Martin Simmons. **Every Tues.: Open Jam.** All musicians invited. **Feb. 2: "Intellect Records Showcase."** With several local acts that record for this New Hampshire-based indie label, including **The Vagrant Symphony**, **Nicole P'Simer**, **Krystallyn**, and **Andrew's Son.** **Feb. 4: Dragon Wagon.** See Circus. **Feb. 5: Buster Whitley Blues.** Detroit blues band fronted by Butler Twins bassist Whitley. **Feb. 9: Bright Out.** Detroit indie rock band. Opening acts are **Leafater**, a new local rock duo fronted by singer-songwriter Doug Flynn, and **The Strange**, a Detroit blues-rock band. **Feb. 11: Back Forty.** Local acoustic string jam quintet that plays a brand of twangy roots-folk music fused with elements of jazz and psychedelic rock that it calls "down-home funkgrass." **Feb. 12: "5th Annual Bloody Valentine Massacre."** With bands TBA. **Feb. 16: Ringmaster Zeb & The Squidling Bros.** Circus Sideshow. Philadelphia troupe whose repertoire includes a host of both traditional and postmodern sideshow stunts, spectacles, and freak shows. **Feb. 18: Gabe Gonzalez.** Funk ensemble led by this former P-Funk All-Stars drummer who is celebrating the release of his new CD, *Negative Nuisance*. **Feb. 19: Collateral Damage.** Ypsilanti metal-rock band. Opening acts are the Detroit metal-rock band **Dirty Whiskey**, the Ypsilanti acoustic hard-rock and hard-country band **Acoustic Hell**, and the Ypsilanti progressive metal duo **Mare Crisium.** **Feb. 23: Oath and Honor.** Detroit hardcore metal quintet. Opening act is **The Sleep of Reason**, an Ypsilanti experimental hardcore quartet, and **Forever a Hero**, a Holt (MI) electronica hardcore band. **Feb. 25 & 26: TBA.**

Goodnite Gracie

301 W. Huron 623-1443

Martini and cigar bar below Live at PJ's lounge. Live music or DJ Sat. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. & occasional other nights. Dancehall & reggaeton DJs Fri. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover (except Fri.), dancing. **Feb. 4: FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by guitarist Randy Tessier and featuring vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Everly Brothers, the Kinks, and the Yardbirds to Miles Davis and Steve Earle. 6-9:30 p.m. **Feb. 5: TBA.** **Feb. 12: Third Coast Kings.** Local horn-driven retro funk band that recently released its debut 45 "Give Me Your Love" on the Italian funk label Record Kicks. 8:30 p.m. **Feb. 19: Lady Sunshine & the X Band.** Popular local gospel-flavored blues band led by Lady Sunshine, a fiery, rich-voiced singer whose style blends elements of Aretha Franklin, Koko Taylor, and Denise LaSalle. **Feb. 26: Dave Sharp's Secret Seven.** Straight-ahead jazz by this ensemble led by veteran local bassist Sharp. 8:30 p.m.

Guy Hollerin's

3600 Plymouth Rd. 769-9800

The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features music on Sat. & occasional Fri., 8 p.m.-midnight. Cover, dancing. If tickets are available in advance, they are sold at the restaurant. **Feb. 5: Jimmy McCarty & Mystery Train.** Popular rockabilly and roots-rock band led by veteran Detroit guitarist McCarty. **Feb. 12: The Bluescasters.** Veteran local blues and blues-rock quartet. **Feb. 19: The Terraplanes.** Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of houserocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. **Feb. 26: Motor City Josh & the Big Three.** Detroit blues band led by guitar virtuoso Josh Ford.

The Habitat Ultralounge

3050 Jackson Rd. 665-3636

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.-Thurs., 8:45 p.m.-12:30 a.m., and Fri. & Sat., 8:45 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Also, DJ Mon., 7 p.m.-midnight, and solo pianists Tues.-Sun., 6-8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Feb. 1: Laith Al-Saadi.** See Black Pearl. **Feb. 2 & 3: Herbie Russ.** Solo saxo-

phonist. **Feb. 4 & 5: Dan Rafferty Band.** 8-piece Detroit pop dance band. **Feb. 8-11: JoyRide.** Popular Flint dance band. **Feb. 12: Cancel Monday.** Versatile Livonia dance band fronted by vocalist Deena Shields. **Feb. 15-17: Dave Hamilton.** Pop covers by this versatile solo guitarist. **Feb. 18 & 19: Persuasion.** Versatile Detroit R&B dance band. **Feb. 22-24: Slice.** East Lansing pop dance quartet. **Feb. 25 & 26: Soulstice.** Hard-driving horn-fueled funk dance band from East Lansing.

The Jolly Pumpkin

311 S. Main 913-2730

The 2nd-floor lounge in this downtown brewpub features live music Thurs. No cover, no dancing. **Every Thurs: Open Mike.** All acoustic musicians and vocalists invited. Hosted by local singer-songwriter Zachariah Griffin. 9:15 p.m. until everyone who signed up has a chance to perform.

Live at PJ's

102 S. First St. 623-1443

This lounge features live music Sun. 5-8:30 p.m., Thurs. 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m., and Sat. 9-11 p.m., along with Thurs. & Fri. 6:30-9 p.m. happy hours. Dance DJs Wed. 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m., & hip-hop DJs (or occasional live music) Fri. 11 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover (except happy hour), dancing. **Every Sun.: Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings.** This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 1920s and early 1930s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. **Every Thurs.: Laith Al-Saadi Trio.** An eclectic mix of jazz, blues, R&B, Motown, and pop, including many originals, by a trio led by this local singer-guitarist. **Every Sat.: "Saddles & Spurs."** Country bands TBA. **Feb. 3: Gary Quackenbush & the New SRC.** This band led by former SRC guitarist Quackenbush performs songs from that influential Ann Arbor-based rock band—like "I'm So Glad," "Black Sheep," and "Bo-lero"—and other vintage rock and blues-rock songs in the same vein. 6-9:30 p.m. **Feb. 4: "WEMU 5:01 Jazz Series."** With **The Royal Garden Trio**, a local trio led by guitarist Brian Delaney that plays early jazz standards and Hot Club-style gypsy jazz. With cellist Michael Karoub and clarinetist and tenor guitarist Tom Bogardus. 5-8 p.m. **Feb. 10: Billy Mack & the Juke Joint Johnnies.** Local roots-rock quartet led by former Starlight Drifters singer-guitarist Mack whose repertoire includes originals and rockabilly, early rock 'n' roll, western swing, and hillbilly bop covers. 6-9:30 p.m. **Feb. 11: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everyone from Chuck Berry and Johnny Burnette to the Beatles and James Brown. With guitarist George Bedard, bassist Chris Goerke, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King. 6-9:30 p.m. **Feb. 17: The BlueRays.** Local blues band led by guitarist Dave Kaftan. 6-9:30 p.m. **Feb. 18: Rubie & the Red Hots.** Rockabilly, blues, country, and rock 'n' roll by this local quintet led by guitarist David Swain and featuring vocalist Kathy Butler. 6-9:30 p.m. **Feb. 24: Cloud 10 All-Stars.** Veteran local blues, funk, soul, and rock 'n' roll dance quartet led by bassist Ben Piner. 6-9:30 p.m. **Feb. 25: Drivin' Sideways.** See above. 6-9:30 p.m. **Feb. 26: The Ones and Twos.** All ages admitted. Stevie Wonder/Motown tribute band. Opening acts are **Gun Lake** (see Woodruff's), the popular local self-styled "pop-geek-cabaret" rock quartet **The White Ravens**, the local teen funk & soul ensemble **Sole Transit**, and the local teen hip-hop MCs **Gamebol** and **O.D.D.** A benefit for the Neutral Zone. 7-10 p.m.

The Necto

516 E. Liberty 994-5436

This popular dance club features local and national DJs 4 nights a week, Mon.-Sat., 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, occasional live shows. Cover, dancing. **Feb. 8: Charlie Slick.** Local Gary Numan-inspired electro-pop singer-songwriter. Midnight-2 a.m. **Feb. 10: MEDMA Presents Impulse!** The Michigan Electronic Dance Music Association's monthly showcase of progressive house, trance, and electronic dance music TBA. **Feb. 12: "Plastic Passion."** DJ Josh Burge hosts this monthly retro dance party with an eclectic mix of everything from New Wave, Britpop, and postpunk to acid house, goth rock, and industrial.

Old Town

122 W. Liberty 662-9291

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun. & occasional other nights, 8-10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by

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Music at Nightspots

various drop-in friends. **Feb. 6:** No music. **Feb. 13:** **Beau DeLoach.** Veteran country and folk session guitarist who recently repatriated to Ann Arbor from Nashville. **Feb. 20:** **Bill Bynum & Co.** Downriver singer-songwriter and guitarist whose bluegrass-based songs also draw on old-time, early country, gospel, and contemporary folk music. His band includes fiddler Mary Seelhorst, dobro player Dave Keeney, and bassist Chuck Anderson. **Feb. 27:** **Jud Branam and Kevin Brown.** Duo performance by these 2 singer-guitarists from the alt-country band Comdaddy.

Oz's Music Environment

1920 Packard 662-8283
 This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music most Tues. 7:30-9:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). Cover by donation, no dancing. **Feb. 1:** "Songwriters Open Mike." All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Feb. 8:** "Anything Goes Open Stage & Song Circle." All musicians invited. Hosted by Laura MacKimmie. **Feb. 22:** "Ukulele Jam." Musicians of all ability levels invited.

The Quarter Bistro

300 S. Maple 929-9200
 This west-side restaurant features live music Sat. 6:30-9 p.m., and occasional other nights. Also, a DJ on Fri., 6-11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Feb. 5:** **Jimmy Augier.** Acoustic pop-rock singer-guitarist from Detroit. **Feb. 12:** **Frankie D'Angelo.** Acoustic pop-rock by this Detroit singer-songwriter. **Feb. 19:** **All Directions.** Canton quintet led by keyboardist Michael Ager and featuring vocalist Kimberly Ringier that plays a versatile mix of R&B, blues-rock, Motown, and jazz. **Feb. 26:** **Bob Skon Trio.** Folk-rock covers and originals by this trio led by Skon, a local singer-songwriter known for his wry songs about love and loss.

Sava's State Street Cafe

216 S. State 623-2233
 This campus-area restaurant features a DJ with some live music, Sun. 10 p.m.-midnight, along with occasional live music on other nights, 10 p.m.-1 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Sun.:** **Jamie Register.** This versatile local soul-funk singer-bassist spins records and sometimes plays some live music.

Silvio's Organic Pizza

715 North University 214-6666
 This campus-area restaurant features live music, Fri. 7-9 p.m. and occasional Sat. 7:30-10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Feb. 4:** **Rock Paper Scissors.** The local alt-country duo of Black Train singer-guitarist Vicki Dischler and cellist Tom Lyon performs a varied array of covers by the likes of Lucinda Williams, Son Volt, the Rolling Stones, and Robyn Hitchcock. **Feb. 11:** **The Dellwoods.** Local jazz quintet. **Feb. 18:** **Ed Nakayama.** Jazz standards by this local guitarist. **Feb. 25:** **Shekinah & Friends.** Jazz, swing, pop, and folk by this local ensemble led by multi-instrumental chanteuse Shekinah Errington.

Tap Room

201 W. Michigan Ypsilanti 482-5320
 This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern features live music Wed. 9-11:30 p.m., Thurs. 8 p.m.-midnight, & Sat. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Also, DJ with Latin dance music, Wed. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Tues.:** **Alexander Graham.** Jazz ensemble led by this postbop alto saxophonist, a 1989 Community High grad and current EMU artist-in-residence known for his distinctively bright, clear tone and his inventive rhythmic and harmonic sense. With different sit-in guests each week. **Every Thurs.:** **Electric Open Mike.** Hosted by **The Martindales**, a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All electric musicians invited. **Feb. 12 & 19:** **Ann Arbor Music Center Kids Showcase.** Youth musicians perform pop and rock covers. 6-8:30 p.m. **Feb. 5:** **Paledave.** Local indie rock quartet led by singer-songwriter Dave Buehrer. **Feb. 12, 19 & 26:** TBA.

Vinology

110 S. Main 222-9841
 This wine bar and restaurant features live jazz, Thurs. 9 p.m.-midnight, and occasional other nights. No cover, no dancing (unless otherwise noted). **Feb. 3:** **Gary Shunk Trio.** Jazz trio led by pianist Shunk. **Feb. 10:** **Paul Keller Trio.** High-energy mainstream

jazz by this ensemble led by bassist Keller. With guest vocalist **Judie Cochill.** **Feb. 17:** **Miles Brown Trio.** Jazz trio led by composer-bassist Brown. With alto saxophonist Alex Graham and guitarist Chris Buzzei. **Feb. 24:** **Nicole New Trio.** Jazz trio fronted by New, a Detroit jazz vocalist known for her rich tone and rhythmic phrasing.

Woodruff's

36 E. Cross Ypsilanti
 This new club in Ypsilanti's Depot Town features live music Sun. 8-11 p.m., Tues. 7-10 p.m., and Mon., Wed., Fri., & Sat. 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, karaoke on Thurs. 11 p.m.-1 a.m. and DJ on Sun. & Tues. 11 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover (except Tues.), dancing. **Every Sun.:** **Dan Bennett Quartet.** Experimental jazz ensemble led by Nomo saxophonist Bennett. 8-11 p.m. **Every Sun.:** **Todd Osborne.** This Detroit-area electronic musician spins techno, electronica, funk, and soul records. 11 p.m.-2 a.m. **Every Mon.:** **Laith Al-Saadi.** See Black Pearl. **Every Tues.:** (except Feb. 15): "Acoustic Open Mike." All acoustic musicians invited. Hosted by local singer-songwriter **Dave Boutette.** 7-10 p.m. **Every Tues.:** (except Feb. 15): "Absolute Beginners." DJs Tim Sendra and Fred Thomas play 60s-style pop music. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. **Every Wed.:** Live bands TBA. **Feb. 4:** **Lake Folk.** Local acoustic indie string-based quintet (cello, bass, banjo, guitar, and drums) whose roots-noir repertoire explores the dark, bizarre, and wonderful. Opening acts are **Match by Match** (see the Ark), **Team Ethic** (see below), the Ypsilanti indie rock band **Long Whisker**, and **Gun Lake**, a local indie pop-folk trio led by singer-songwriter Mark Fain. **Feb. 5:** "The Who Tribute Night." With various local musicians TBA. **Feb. 10:** **Finer Things.** Local piano-driven rock trio whose influences range from Ben Folds to the White Stripes. Opening act is **The Kickstand Band**, a Detroit rock 'n' roll trio. 8-11 p.m. **Feb. 11:** "Discolanti." Dance party with DJs Mike Trombley of Macho City, Todd Osborne, and Chuck Hampton. **Feb. 12:** **Secret Twins.** Local garage punk quartet that recently released a CD, *Ill Fit*. Opening acts are the Detroit rock band **Terrible Twos**, the Detroit psychedelic-punk band **The Frustrations**, and the Detroit big-beat rock trio **Deadbeat Beat.** **Feb. 15:** "The Love Hangover." Love song covers and originals by one-off pairings of area musicians, including members of **Black Jake & the Carnies**, **Bitter Roots**, **Secret Twins**, and many more. 7 p.m.-2 a.m. **Feb. 18:** "Elbow Deep." Gay and lesbian gala with Detroit DJ **Humanfly.** **Feb. 19:** **Misty Lyn & the Big Beautiful.** Local country-inflected folk-rock band led by singer-songwriter Misty Lyn. Opening acts are **Black Jake & the Carnies**, an Ypsilanti octet that calls its energetic, foot-stomping blend of punk, old-time music, and bluegrass "crabgrass," along with the local lo-fi country-tinged pop band quintet **Davenport** and **Danny Kline**, a local alt-country singer-songwriter and guitarist. **Feb. 24:** **Royale.** Local rock 'n' roll trio. Opening act is **Team Ethic**, a new local rock band featuring members of Lone Wolf, Fields of Industry, Royale, Boywife, and Invader. 8-11 p.m. **Feb. 25:** **Timothy Monger State Park.** Local pop-rock band led by Monger, the engaging pop-rock singer-songwriter-guitarist from the Great Lakes Myth Society known for his high lonesome tunes. Monger has a new CD, *Summer Cherry Ghosts*, that *All Music Guide* calls "a sweetly nostalgic song cycle, filled with sketches of places and people he's loved, memories he treasures—in short, the ghosts of summers past." Opening acts are **Scarlet Oaks**, a Detroit quartet that plays soulful country-rock, and another band TBA. **Feb. 26:** **Easy Action.** Veteran Detroit garage punk quartet featuring former members of the local bands **Laughing Hyenas** and **Big Chief**. Opening acts are **Mazinga** (see Blind Pig) and **Jehovah's Witness Protection Program**, a local rock 'n' roll duo.

Zal Gaz Grotto

2070 W. Stadium 663-1202
 This Masonic social and service club hosts live music Tues. 5:30-8:30 p.m. Cover, dancing. **Every Tues.:** **Paul Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Klinger. **Feb. 19:** **Paul Keller & Friends.** Veteran local string bassist Keller leads a mini-big band in a variety of jazz styles, including Dixieland, some Count Basie and Duke Ellington selections, a few pieces in the style of Art Blakey and The Jazz Messengers, and several new arrangements of standards. With vocalist Sarah D'Angelo. 8-11 p.m.

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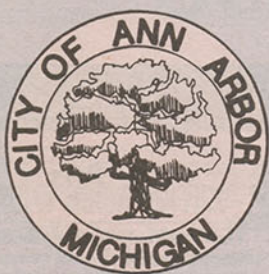
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SNOW REMOVAL

City of Ann Arbor

STREETS

Where there is light snow or ice on road surfaces, the city's Public Services Area clears over 98 miles of high volume streets, bridges, intersections with stop signs or traffic signals, and streets with curves. De-icing materials are applied to provide better traction for vehicles to help prevent accidents at high-risk locations. The street clearing process takes about five hours and may be repeated as needed. After the major and high-risk streets are cleared, city crews sand the local streets in the City, which requires ten to twelve hours.

When a snowfall of four inches or more occurs, street snow plowing begins and the City Administrator may declare that a "snow emergency" is in effect. Plowing is done on all public streets and city-owned property; however, all schools and privately owned areas provide for their own de-icing and plowing. Citizens are advised to remove cars from curbside parking to allow for effective street plowing.

When a "snow emergency" is in effect, illegally parked vehicles may be ticketed and towed.

The city snow desk is staffed when a snow emergency is in effect. The snow desk tracks the location of plows throughout the city and provides information to the public about the plowing progress. You may reach the snow desk at 794-6367.

*** On days having odd-numbered dates, vehicles are**

prohibited from parking on the side of the street having even-numbered street addresses—in order to allow plows to clear the even-numbered side of the street. Parking is permitted on the side of the street with odd-numbered addresses in legal spaces.

*** On days having even-numbered dates, vehicles are prohibited from parking on the street having odd-numbered street addresses**—in order to allow plows to clear the odd-numbered side of the street. Parking is permitted on the side of the street with even-numbered addresses in legal spaces.

SIDEWALKS

When there is a snow event in Ann Arbor, the city depends on its citizens to be helpful, responsible, and aware of the need to remove all snow and ice from the public sidewalks including walks and ramps leading to a cross walk.

During the winter months, many Ann Arbor residents (including children walking to school and the physically challenged) need to be able to safely use the public sidewalks. This means that all snow and ice should be removed from the entire constructed width enabling people of all ages and physical conditions to have access to clean pedestrian walkways. City Council has passed an ordinance regarding snow removal (violations can result in fines up to \$500), but reminds you that

sidewalk snow removal is simply a combination of courtesy and caring toward all those who need to use the public sidewalks.

The city reminds owners or occupants of non-residentially zoned properties that all snow and ice which has accumulated on the adjacent public sidewalk prior to 6am must be removed by noon. Immediately after the accumulation of ice on such a sidewalk it must be treated with sand, salt or other substance to prevent it from being slippery. Within 24 hours after the end of each accumulation of snow greater than one inch, the owner or occupant of every residentially zoned property must remove the accumulation from the adjacent public sidewalk.

Remember, accumulation can occur from any source including precipitation and drifting, and the term "sidewalk" includes adjacent walks and ramps leading to crosswalks, typically at corners. Ice must be treated as mentioned above and removed within 24 hours after accumulation. Last but certainly not least, please exercise caution and care when shoveling, especially during extreme cold.

WASTE & RECYCLING

Place trash and recycling carts in a clear street or driveway by 7 a.m. on your weekly collection day, with 3' between each cart. Special pickup (disabled) customers must provide clear walkways to trash and recycling carts. Access to dumpsters must be clear of snow and ice.

Best Wishes for a Safe and Happy Winter Season from the City of Ann Arbor

Please save for reference throughout the snow months.

Revised November 2010

Real Estate

Residential and Commercial Properties
in Washtenaw and Livingston Counties



4508 CROSS CREEK DR., ANN ARBOR—Enjoy the casual elegance of this gorgeous home nestled amongst tall oaks on the 4th hole in Travis Pointe. Two-story family room with a stacked-stone fireplace, updated kitchen with granite, new stainless appliances, including warming tray, and wine refrigerator. Updated bathrooms, first-floor study with built-in cabinets. Finished daylight basement is an entertainer's dream, second kitchen, two wine refrigerators, beer cage, dishwasher, wine cellar, home theater, and new carpet. Large deck with built-in hot tub. Central air conditioning and more. Must see. \$562,500. MLS#3100220.



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NE ANN ARBOR - Incredible 32 acre estate property just minutes to Ann Arbor, U-M, and hospitals. This property is breathtaking. This custom-built home rests in the heart of mature forest. Enjoy complete privacy and harmony with nature with the convenience of a premier location. The 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home features soaring ceilings, walls of glass, and extensive upgrades. \$995,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



GREEN OAK TOWNSHIP - Serenity surrounds you at this stunning 4-bedroom, 4-full, 2-half-bath custom-built home on 7.5 gorgeous acres. The property is very special featuring a flowing stream, forest, extensive landscaping, decks, and patio. The home features only the finest throughout including two-story foyer with sweeping stair, gourmet kitchen, two-story great room, luxury master suite, and finished walkout lower level. \$995,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



WALNUT RIDGE - Incredible contemporary gem in one of Ann Arbor's most sought after neighborhoods. This home features incredible flair and features. Highlighted by the one-of-a-kind kitchen with stainless steel cabinets, professional grade appliances, and concrete counter tops. Features include all maple floors on the first floor, two-story great room, and luxury master suite with dream bath and closet. \$759,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



GLENBOROUGH - Incredible 6-bedroom, 4-full, two-half-bath custom-built home by Harris on one of the best lots. Enjoy views of woods and nature from the large deck. Great custom detail including rich maple kitchen with granite counters, large family room with fireplace and 11' ceiling, sun room, den, luxury master suite with 2 walk-in closets, and finished walk-out basement with large rec room, bedroom, and bath. \$749,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



STONEBRIDGE - Gorgeous 4-bedroom, 4.4-bath custom-built home by Harris on the 9th fairway at Stonebridge. This home is the essence of quality. Incredible landscaping and multi-tier brick paver patio. Features a two-story family room with masonry fireplace, cherry kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, den with built-ins, luxury master suite with spa-like bath, and finished lower level with rec room. \$599,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



ANN ARBOR SCHOOLS - Stunning 2005-built 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home in Pheasant Hollow. This perfectly designed home has all the features and amenities you've been hoping for. Great lot with nice landscaping, 2 decks, and pastoral views. Interior is sharp and features two-story family room, custom kitchen with granite counters, and luxury master suite. \$569,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



EARHART - Stunning 4-bedroom, 2½-bath contemporary on a totally wooded ½ acre lot in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs. This timeless architect designed home has undergone an extensive renovation and is just stunning. Wall to ceiling glass in most rooms, custom kitchen, master suite with attached study, and finished walkout lower level. \$549,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



DEXTER - This incredible estate property rests on one of the most beautiful settings you will ever see. Enjoy extensive gardens, exotic plantings, ponds, and covered entertaining areas highlight the exterior. Interior features extensive renovation including dream kitchen, vaulted ceilings, den, luxurious master suite, and separate 900 sq. ft. guest room. You will be impressed. \$549,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - LOHR LAKE VILLAGE - This stunning colonial rests on one of the finest lots in the sub. Enjoy panoramic waterfront views from the quiet cul-de-sac setting. The interior of this home is perfect as well and features two-story foyer and family room, open kitchen with granite, luxury master suite, remodeled baths, and finished walkout basement. Wow! \$439,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - YORK PLACE - Very sharp 4-bedroom, 3½-bath custom-built colonial on a quiet cul-de-sac lot deep within the sub. This home is just perfect and features two-story foyer, maple kitchen the granite counters and stainless steel appliances, open family room with fireplace and vaulted ceiling, luxury master suite, and finished lower level with viewout windows and large rec space. \$419,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE ESTATES - This like-new 4-bedroom, 2½-bath custom-built home rests on a peaceful .85 acre lot in one of Saline's most desired subs. Great yard with extensive landscaping and a large deck. The interior features two-story foyer, large formal living room and dining room, den, open kitchen with granite counters, family room with vaulted ceiling, luxury master suite with sitting room, and huge closet. \$419,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



STONEBRIDGE - Custom built 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home on the #3 Green at Stonebridge. Great lot features extensive landscaping, 2 decks, and one of the nicest golf views you will find. Quality built home has mostly brick exterior, two-story great room with fireplace, den, spacious kitchen, luxury first-floor master suite, upstairs bedroom suite, and jack-n-jill bath. \$409,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - ARBOR CREEK - Very sharp 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac lot in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs. This home is great and features great room with vaulted ceiling, open kitchen with upgraded appliances, large first-floor master suite, den, spacious bedrooms, and a full finished basement with large rec space. \$349,900 Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



TRAVIS POINTE - This stunning 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo is the nicest Travis Pointe condo to ever hit the open market. Great setting adjoining trees and open space. The interior has been completely renovated and features extensive Brazilian cherry floor, cherry kitchen cabinets with granite and professional grade appliances, luxury master suite with vaulted ceiling and remodeled bath, and many other updates. \$339,900 Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



EAST HORIZONS - Very nice 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac lot in one of Saline School's most popular neighborhoods. This home has a great setting with oversized backyard, large deck, and extensive landscaping. The interior includes two-story great room with hardwood floor, open kitchen with ample cabinets, first-floor master suite with brand new luxury bath, and additional bonus room upstairs. \$339,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - Oversized 4-bedroom, 2½-bath ranch on a private 2.75 acre lot just minutes to downtown Saline and US-23. Wonderful setting features mature trees, extensive landscaping, and in-ground pool. Interior is spacious and features sunken living room with fireplace, oversized family room with room for game table and TV area, open kitchen, nice master suite, and lots of storage. \$329,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



LAKE FOREST - Great 4-bedroom, 2½-bath home in one of Ann Arbor's most popular subs. This home is just perfect inside and out and features great room with vaulted ceiling and full height brick fireplace, large first-floor master suite, spacious bedrooms, and flex-use rec room in the lower level. Nice landscaping and huge deck. You will love it! \$284,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



VALLEY RANCH - Stunning 4-bedroom, 3-bath condo on one of the best settings in Valley Ranch. This unit is just perfect and features very upscale and inviting space. Features include great room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, spacious kitchen with granite counter tops, luxury master suite, first-floor den, and finished lower level with rec room, 2-bedroom, and bath. \$279,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



LAKE FOREST HIGHLANDS - Very sharp 3-bedroom, 2-bath, 2 half-bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac lot in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs. The current owner has made a significant investment in this home to make it one of the finest you will see. Features include extensive landscaping, large deck, 4-season sunroom, great room with vaulted ceiling, new kitchen, first-floor master suite, and finished basement. \$279,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - Renovated 5-bedroom, 3½-bath farmhouse on a peaceful 1.5 acre setting one mile south of Saline. Great setting with vista views of farms. Home has lots of updates including new kitchen with cherry cabinets and granite counters, large family room, flex use den, oversized master suite with attached bath and walk-in closet, great deck, and three-car garage. You will love it. \$277,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - WEST SIDE ANN ARBOR - Great duplex on a quiet west side street. The property features two 2-bedroom, 1-bath units. Both units are in very good condition with newer carpet, paint, one kitchen, and roof. Great for first time landlords or owner occupied. \$169,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



WHISPERING PINES - Perfect 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch style condo backing to trees and the golf course. This unit is gorgeous and is highlighted by the remodeled kitchen with granite counter tops, great room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, luxury master suite with walk-in closet, and flex use den/3rd bedroom. Low Hamburg Township taxes. \$169,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



AUGUSTA TWP - Sharp 3-bedroom, 2-bath all-brick ranch on 5 peaceful acres just minutes to US-23. Great setting with fenced backyard, large garden space, and 2 outbuildings. Home features spacious oak kitchen, family room with fireplace, formal living and dining rooms, master suite with attached bath, and large bedrooms. \$164,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



MANCHESTER - This 3-bedroom, 1-bath ranch style home includes 2,200 square feet of living space. Walk to downtown Manchester from this well maintain home on a quiet, tree-lined street. Features include large living room with coved ceilings, open kitchen, sun room that opens to an in-ground pool, and spacious bedrooms. \$139,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NW ANN ARBOR - This is one of the finest homes you will ever see. Striking Arch design with Idaho Blue Stone and Redwood exterior, exceptional landscaping, and covered outdoor patio with fireplace. Interior features cherry cabinets, floors, trim, and doors throughout. Gourmet kitchen, spa-like master suite, and finished lower level with rec space, sauna, and full kitchen. Five-car heated garage. \$1,495,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NE ANN ARBOR - This 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath home is one of the finest custom built homes you will ever see. Incredible craftsmanship. Nestled on a wooded 2.4 acre lot. Extensive landscaping, patio, and putting green. Home has every amenity including a two-story great room, sun room, dream kitchen, luxury bath, and the ultimate finished basement. \$1,195,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



ANN ARBOR - Very special 4-bedroom, 4 1/2-bath custom-built, builder's own home backing to Polo Fields golf course. Gorgeous brick and stone exterior, extensive landscaping, and the finest covered patio with outdoor kitchen you will see. Interior is top-of-the-line in every way. Custom kitchen, extensive moldings, high ceilings, and luxury amenities in every room of the home. \$1,195,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NW ANN ARBOR - This gorgeous, custom-built home by Henry Landau rests on a 8+ acre country estate. Grounds include extensive landscaping, circle drive, and outbuilding. Home is rock solid with an all-brick exterior. Interior features include two-story living room, striking dining room with barrel ceiling, custom kitchen, dream master suite and finished walk-out basement. \$999,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



DIXBORO FARMS - Stunning 4-bedroom, 4-bath new construction on a gorgeous 2-acre estate lot in this popular NE Ann Arbor neighborhood. Quality features everywhere including all brick exterior, cherry kitchen with granite counters, extensive custom molding and trim, luxury first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$749,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



CHELSEA - This incredible timber frame home rests on a 12-acre estate type property with access to two private lakes. The land is spectacular with mature trees, gorgeous water views, and ample wildlife. The home was custom-built to the highest standards seen. Features include two-story atrium room with walls of glass, kitchen with granite counter tops, reclaimed staircase, incredible master suite, and radiant heat. \$729,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



NEW LISTING - GLENNBOROUGH - Very sharp 5-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath custom-built home by Russell. This home rests on one of the most gorgeous settings you will find backing to trees and wildlife. The interior is special featuring great room with vaulted ceiling, large custom kitchen with Corian, spacious first-floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$624,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



TRAVIS POINTE - Stunning 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath timeless custom-built home overlooking water and the golf course at Travis Pointe. Incredible grounds with an incredible view. Home features soaring ceilings with walls of glass, new kitchen with professional grade appliances, two-story stone fireplace, luxury master suite, and finished walk-out basement. \$599,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SAGINAW HILLS - Striking 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath water front home in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs. Enjoy peaceful pond views from the oversized deck on this beautiful one acre lot. Home has a nice contemporary flair and features an open kitchen and family room with water views, living room with vaulted ceiling, master suite with walk-in closet and luxury bath, and finished basement. \$499,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS - Gorgeous custom-built 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath home on a spacious acre+ lot in one of Saline's most desired subs. Wonderful setting features extensive landscaping, patio, and screened porch. The interior is spectacular with dramatic open entry, living room with vaulted ceiling, cherry kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, and dream master suite with spa-like bath. \$499,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



HUNTERS RIDGE - Incredible 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath custom-built ranch on a quiet cul-de-sac lot. This home features incredible size and proportion. Oversized rooms, high vaulted ceilings, and nice upgrades highlight this home. Interior features include open kitchen, great room with vaulted ceiling, luxury master bedroom, and finished walkout basement. \$499,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - Absolutely gorgeous 4-bedroom, 4 1/2-bath, custom-built builder's model home in Huntington Woods. This home is loaded with quality upgrades throughout. Features include two-story foyer and family room, cherry kitchen with 11' ceilings and granite counters, extensive trim and molding, luxury master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$459,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



PINCKNEY - Gorgeous 4-bedroom, 3-bath custom-built home with 90 ft. of frontage on Highland Lake. This home is just paradise with panoramic views of lake and 11,000 acres of state owned land. The interior is loaded featuring oversized great room, maple kitchen with granite, and dream master suite. \$399,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



LAKE FOREST - Stunning 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath former builder's model home in one of Ann Arbor's most desired subs. Great lot with extensive landscaping, large deck, and patio. Interior features two-story family room, ample hardwood floors, den, kitchen with granite counter tops, nice master suite with newly remodeled bath, and finished walkout basement with large rec space, study, and bath. \$369,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SANDHILL ESTATES - Top quality, custom-built 5-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath ranch on a peaceful acre lot in one of Grass Lake's most desired subs. Great home inside and out. Exterior features brick and stone exterior, extensive landscaping, and deck overlooking the rolling country side. Interior is special with custom features throughout. Great room with stone fireplace, open kitchen, luxury master suite, and finished basement. \$364,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - This home is a gem. Incredible property backing to 100s of acres of protected farmland. Exterior features extensive landscaping, deck, patio, and one of the most scenic views you will find. Interior includes great room with vaulted ceiling, remodeled bath with custom cabinets and granite counters, first-floor master suite, and finished lower level with great flex-use rec space. \$359,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - Great custom-built 4-bedroom, 4 1/2-bath home in Kelli Meadows. Wonderful lot features extensive landscaping, large deck, in-ground pool, and backs to woods. The interior includes living room with vaulted ceiling, open kitchen, family room with fireplace, luxury master suite, and finished basement with rec room, bar, and bath. \$325,000. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



UM CAMPUS/KERRYTOWN - Great rental property walking distance to UM campus, UM hospital, Kerrytown, and downtown Ann Arbor. Strong rental history and great condition highlight this easy income property. Property has two 1-bedroom apartments. \$299,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



LINCOLN SCHOOLS - Enjoy your own 40-acre private get-away in this modest 3-bedroom, 1-bath home. The land is spectacular and features open meadows and dense woods. Potential for land split also exists. Perfect home for an outdoor enthusiast. Home is older and has lots of charm. \$299,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



THE RAVINES - Super sharp 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac lot backing to wooded common area. The incredible exterior features extensive landscaping, large deck, and brick paver patio. Interior is wonderful and features vaulted ceilings, open kitchen, great décor, and finished basement with rec room, bedroom, bath, and wet bar. \$289,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



PITTSFIELD TWP - Very spacious 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath library colonial in this popular east Ann Arbor neighborhood. Great lot with extensive landscaping, large deck, and quiet backyard. This home has a wonderful floor plan and many nice upgrades. Features include kitchen with granite counter tops, oversized family room with fireplace, first-floor den, formal living room and dining room, and nice master suite. \$239,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



BRIARWOOD AREA CONDO - Walk to shopping and restaurants from this perfect 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo. This unit is loaded and is highlighted by the cherry kitchen with granite counter tops, open living room, nice master suite, den/exercise area, and garage. You will love it. Easy commute to UM campus and downtown. \$199,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



LINCOLN SCHOOLS - Classic 4-bedroom, 1-bath turn-of-the-century farmhouse on 3 peaceful acres just minutes to I-94 and US-23. This home is in need of substantial updating but is structurally sound and loaded with charm and character. You will love the oversized moldings and hardwood floors. Large hip-roof barn. Perfect for the handyman. \$199,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SOUTH LYON - Are you looking for some peace and quiet in the country? Here it is. Perfectly maintained 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch on a gorgeous acre-plus lot. The land and view are beautiful plus extensive landscaping, large deck, and fenced area for animals. Home features oversized garage, open floor plan, and finished walkout basement. \$184,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



SALINE - Perfect 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo walking distance to downtown Saline. This is a nice quiet condo complex with quick access to parks, shopping, and dining. The unit is in move-in condition and features open great room, kitchen with large island, first-floor bedroom can be a den, 2nd floor master retreat, and partially finished basement. \$139,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP - Very sharp 4-bedroom, 2-bath all brick ranch on a spacious double lot convenient to everything. Great yard features oversized fenced backyard, large deck, and 3-car garage. The interior is perfect with refinished hardwood floors, living room with fireplace, nice master bedroom, and partially finished basement. \$119,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



YPSILANTI - Rock solid 3-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath brick ranch in Gault Farms. Enjoy one of Ypsilanti's best neighborhoods from this well cared for home. Features include mature trees, covered patio, gleaming hardwood floors, oak kitchen, and finished basement. Roof, windows, and furnace are all newer. \$99,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.



ANN ARBOR - Sharp 1-bedroom, 1-bath condo near U-M campus. Enjoy this quiet complex convenient to everything with in-ground swimming pool. This unit is in great shape and features a spacious living room, nice bedroom, and perfect condition throughout. \$59,900. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.

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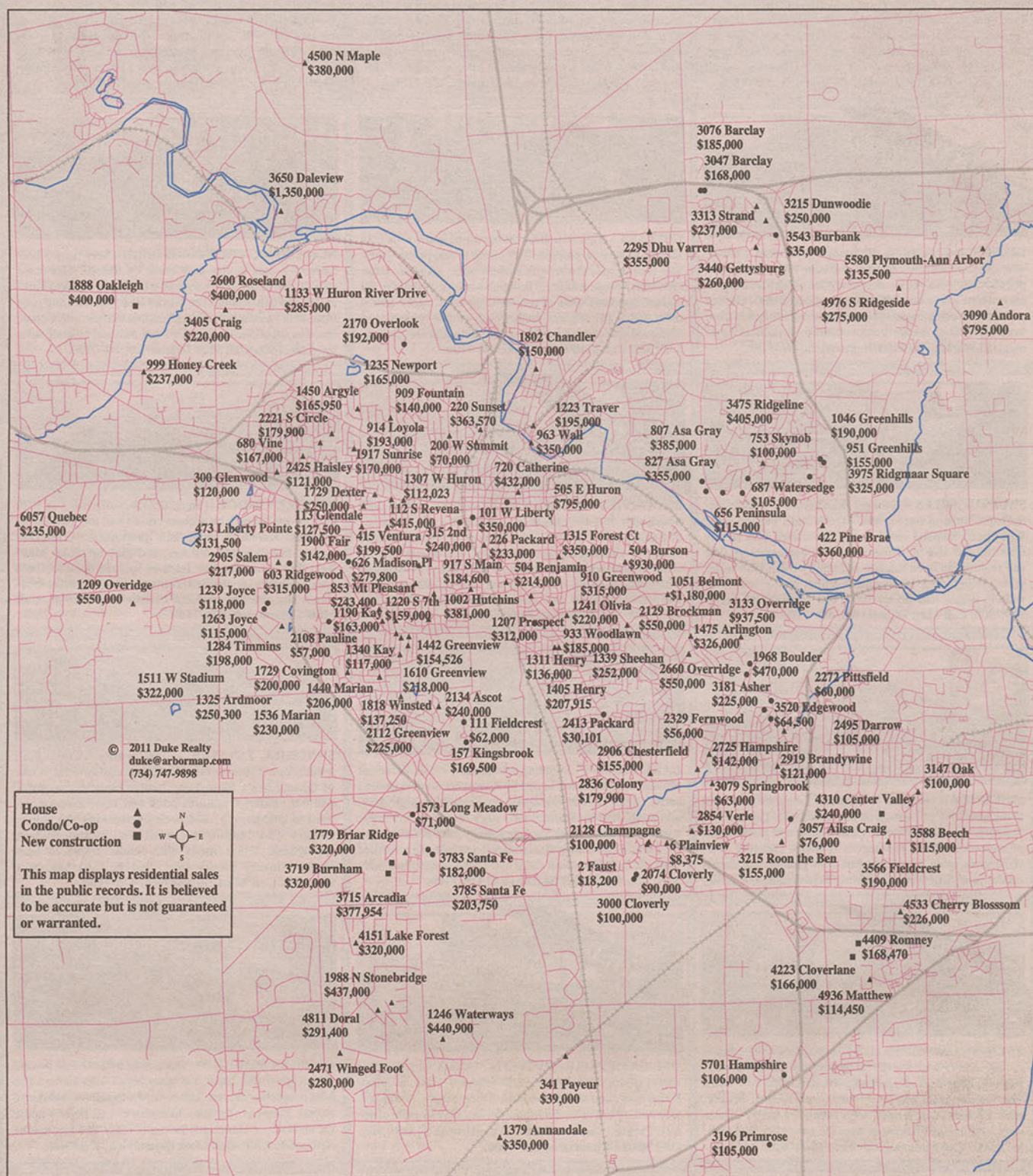
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DECEMBER 2010 HOME SALES



The residential real estate market built momentum in 2010. The median price of a single-family home in the Ann Arbor School District rose to \$229,000 in 2010 from \$220,000 in 2009, a 4 percent gain. A modest improvement? Yes, but multiply that increase by the 1,013 single-family homes that sold in 2010 to arrive at the full impact of this movement.

A year-end review found other encouraging signs of a turnaround. The number of homes sold also increased last year, based on our analysis of public records. Sales were up 5 percent, from 1,451 in 2009 to 1,524 in 2010, counting single-family homes and condominiums together—new and old. Does the quickening pace of sales mirror the revival of the auto industry? Perhaps no other economic link has a bigger influence on Ann Arbor's

fortunes. Whatever the reason, the value of single-family home sales rose to \$280 million in 2010, up a tad from \$270 million in 2009.

Sales of condos jumped 16 percent, from 380 in 2009 to 439 in 2010. The median price of a condo in the Ann Arbor School District fell 3 percent, from \$229,000 to \$225,000. But in the city of Ann Arbor, the price per square foot of living space increased 4 percent last year, from \$110 per square foot to \$114. In other words, after adjusting for size, sellers actually received more for their condos in 2010 than in 2009. Using the same measure, the gain shrinks for single-family homes: their median price per square foot rose from \$139 in 2009 to \$141 in 2010. Still, the trend remains positive, another sign of strength.

Do these small improvements represent the end of the Great Recession, or just a small bounce off the bottom? A skeptic is entitled to interpret them with caution until the passage of time allows for better perspective. But home builders, at least, should be feeling more optimistic. Sales of new homes jumped from just fifty-two in 2009 to seventy-two in 2010, with their total value rising from \$15 million to \$20 million.

Closing out the year, this month's map is crowded with sales activity. December's map tracks 136 sales in the Ann Arbor School District—the busiest month of December in five years. It seems 2010 went out with a bang rather than a whisper—another sign that the momentum of a turnaround is building.

—Kevin Duke



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:
 David Kersch, 734 214-3796
 Stephen Anderson, 734 214-5897
 Charlie Chapell, 734 214-2728
 Ramona Meadows, 734 944-3981
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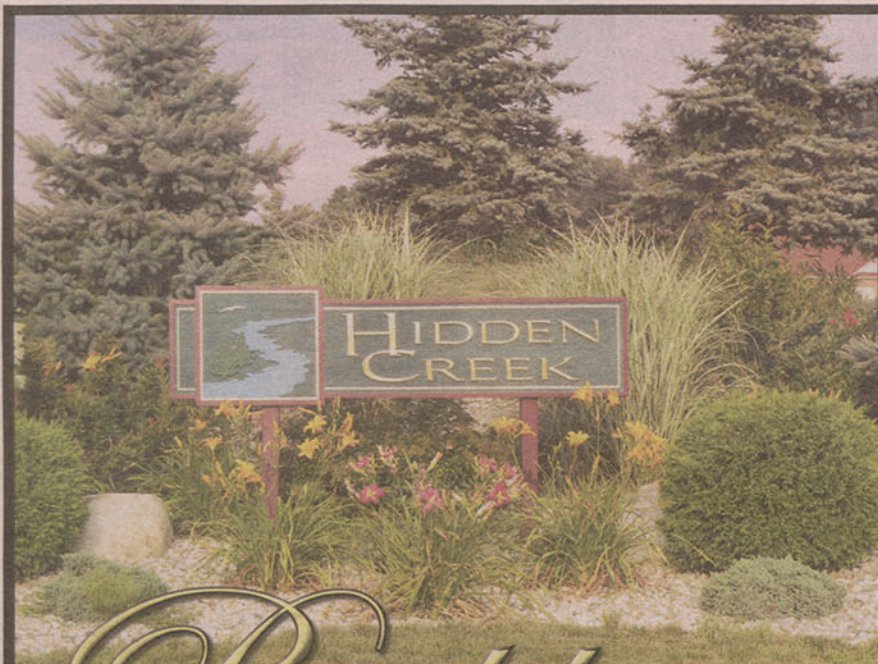
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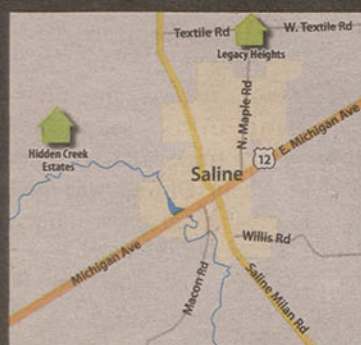


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Ann Arbor Observer

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i spy

by Sally Bjork

"I wondered if the map of the world had changed while I was away on vacation," writes Kathy Peterson of January's clue, "Where France borders Mongolia." "Maybe some freakish act of nature ... pushed the two ... together ... or one or both countries traded spots on the map with another." This left Peterson to ponder: "If France bordered Mongolia now, did Spain border India?"

While Peterson jests about her "aha moment," Louisa Griffes directly identifies January's I Spy as Café Felix on Main Street. "The fleur-de-lis symbol (French for lily or iris) [is] on the awning over the entrance to [this] ... French Bistro," she writes. "It sits next to bd's Mongolian Grill ... hence, France borders Mongolia!" Felix fan Margaret Klauscher adds, "They've got awesome crepes!"

Café Felix started as a coffeehouse in 1997, adding tapas, wine, and entrées over the years in its transition to a European bistro. It is one of the many restaurants that participated in Restaurant Week during mid-January—an opportu-



This wolverine holds the key

nity to try lunches and dinners with set pricing at various restaurants downtown. If you missed it, don't worry. Restaurant Week returns in June.

We received twenty-eight entries identifying Café Felix. Our randomly drawn winner, Tess Roth, is taking her gift certificate to the Saint Joseph Mercy Health System.

To enter this month's contest, use the photo and clue above to identify the scene, then follow the instructions at the bottom of the page.



fake ad

by Jay Forstner

Last month's Fake Ad for the New Year's Eve Open House at Huron Valley Assisted Living (page 66 of the January Observer) prompted eighty-one responses. The ad contained a reference to the all-time cult film classic *This Is Spinal Tap*, which was not lost on the most clever of our clever Fake Adders. "Like Nigel Tufnel's amp, this one goes to eleven," Marty Pernick wrote of the party, which was scheduled to end an hour before midnight.

"I wonder if Nigel and the boys were considered for this gig," wrote David

This One Goes to **ELEVEN!**

2011 that is!

It's our annual New Year's Eve Open House and Dance

**Friday, December 31
7:00-11:00
Free admission**

Huron Valley Assisted Living
2640 E. Main Street, Ann Arbor
Web invite at:
huronvalleyassistedliving.com



Shoup. "Or maybe they lost out to a puppet show."

Several entrants nominated a Real Ad instead. "I wonder how many more people will turn in 'Page 61—Alice Liberson—Chinese acupuncture for your pet,'" wrote Ypsilanti's Robert Koerne. "My wife picked out that for fake at first as well. I found that to be hilarious."

Our winner was Camille Fitzsimmons. She's taking her gift certificate to the Blue Tractor restaurant.

To enter this month's contest, find the Fake Ad in this issue and follow the instructions in the box below.

To enter either contest, send email with the subject "Fake Ad" or "I Spy" to back-page@aaobserver.com. Mail: 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Fax: 769-3375. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received by noon on February 10 will be eligible for this month's random drawings. Winners will receive \$25 gift certificates to any business advertising in this issue.

February Clearance Sale

Fourth Ave
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Select Bogs, El Naturalista, Snipe and Blundstone Boots
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\$10 minimum order, dine-in or carry-out.
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www.EVANGELICALHOMES.org

Events at a Glance

Daily Events listings begin on p. 37. Films: p. 43. Galleries: p. 53. Nightspots begin on p. 64.

Concert Music

classical, religious, cabaret

- The Cleveland Orchestra, Feb. 1
- New Century Chamber Orchestra, Feb. 4
- Ann Arbor Grail Singers, Feb. 5
- Les Voix Humaines early-music duo, Feb. 11
- Pianist Rafal Blechacz, Feb. 11
- Oblivion Project tango ensemble, Feb. 11
- Cellochan chamber concert, Feb. 12
- Concertante string sextet, Feb. 13
- EMU "Music Now Fest," Feb. 16-18
- Pianist Joel Hastings, Feb. 19
- Vocal Arts Ensemble, Feb. 19
- Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra, Feb. 20
- Takacs Quartet, Feb. 20
- Kodo percussion ensemble, Feb. 23
- Dexter Community Band, Feb. 27

Vernacular Music

pop, rock, jazz, & traditional

See Nightspots, p. 64, for shows at the Ark, Blind Pig, & other clubs

- Wynton Marsalis & Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, Feb. 2
- Robert Johnson Centennial Concert with Hubert Sumlin, Honeyboy Edwards, & others (blues), Feb. 10
- Marshall Chapman (singer-songwriter), Feb. 11
- The Ragbirds (avant-country-rock) with the Saline Fiddlers, Feb. 12
- Peter Madcat Ruth (blues, folk, & jazz harmonica), Feb. 12
- Mr. B (boogie-woogie), Feb. 12
- Vijay Iyer Trio and Rudresh Mahanthappa's Apex (jazz), Feb. 12
- River Raisin Ragtime Revue, Feb. 13
- Billy Brandt & Sarana VerLin (Celticana), Feb. 17
- Available Jelly (jazz), Feb. 18
- Nathan Bell (singer-songwriter), Feb. 18
- Paul Finkbeiner's Atmospheric Disturbance (jazz), Feb. 19
- Hot Club of Detroit (jazz), Feb. 24
- Danny Schmidt (singer-songwriter), Feb. 25

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *Corktown* (Purple Rose Theatre), every Wed.-Sun.
- *Little Women* (Encore Musical Theatre), Feb. 3-6, 10-13, & 17-20
- *Prelude to a Kiss* (U-M Basement Arts), Feb. 3-5
- "Dancing Americas" (U-M Dance Company), Feb. 3-6
- *The War Since Eve* (Performance Network), Feb. 3-6 & 10-13
- *It Came from Mars* (Pioneer High School), Feb. 4 & 5
- *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (Burns Park Players), Feb. 4, 5, & 10-12
- *Dearly Beloved* (Skyline High School), Feb. 4 & 5
- *Wiley and the Hairy Men* (Huron High School), Feb. 4, 5, 11, & 12
- *It's Always Funny in Follydelphia* (U-M B-School Follies), Feb. 4 & 5

- "An Evening of Scenes" (U-M Residential College Players), Feb. 4 & 5
- *The Wonderful World of Dissocia* (U-M Basement Arts), Feb. 10-12
- *The Rocky Horror Show* (EMU Theatre), Feb. 11-13 & 17-19
- *The Dance of the Seven Veils* (New Theatre Project), Feb. 11-14, 18-21, & 25-28
- Dance on Camera Festival, Feb. 12
- *Arms and the Man* (U-M Mendelssohn Theatre), Feb. 17-20
- *Our Country's Good* (U-M Theatre Studio), Feb. 17-20
- *Equus* (Blackbird Theatre), Feb. 17-19 & 24-26
- Merce Cunningham Dance Company, Feb. 18 & 19
- "Kamikaze Theater" (U-M Residential College Players), Feb. 19
- *King Lear* (National Theatre-London), Feb. 20
- *Lysistrata* (U-M Residential College), Feb. 20
- *Bright Ideas* (U-M Basement Arts), Feb. 24-26

Comedy, Storytelling, & Performance Art

- Comic Michael Somerville, Feb. 3-5
- Comic Kerri Louise, Feb. 10-12
- "Comedy Held Hostage" stand-up trio, Feb. 11
- Comic Mark Sweeney, Feb. 17-19
- Comic Lewis Black, Feb. 19
- The Ark Storytelling Festival, Feb. 19 & 20
- Comic Vince Morris, Feb. 24-26

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Chelsea American Legion Winter Carnival, Feb. 4
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation "Winter Beach Blast," Feb. 19
- Model Railroad Club Show, Feb. 20
- Dawn Dance Weekend, Feb. 25-27

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- U.S. House majority leader Eric Cantor, Feb. 2
- Fiction writer Nicholas Delbanco, Feb. 8
- Fiction writer Bonnie Jo Campbell, Feb. 9
- Fiction writer Mary Gaitskill, Feb. 10
- Washington Post senior correspondent Rajiv Chandrasekaran, Feb. 15
- Poet Carl Phillips, Feb. 17
- Poet Cathy Park Hong, Feb. 17
- Poet Suzanne Hancock and fiction writer Valerie Laken, Feb. 24

Family & Kids' Stuff

- *Junie B. Jones* (Theatreworks USA), Feb. 6
- Mister Laurence Experience kids concert, Feb. 12
- *Fables Galore and More* (Performance Network Children's Theater Network), Feb. 12
- *Under the African Sky* (Wild Swan Theater), Feb. 24-26

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- U-M lecture on "The North Campus Research Complex, Technology Transfer, and the Public Interest," Feb. 14

FEBRUARY 2011

www.art-design.umich.edu

M school of art & design

2/3

Penny Stamps Series:
Nick Cave



Title: STRATEGIES OF PERFORMA: SCENE & UNSEEN
NICK CAVE IS A FABRIC SCULPTOR, dancer, and performance artist best known for his figurative sculptural "Soundsuits." Constructed of found materials and designed to rattle and resonate with the wearer's movements, these works reference a range of cultural, ritualistic, and ceremonial concepts.

With support from the Department of Theatre & Drama of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, the University Musical Society (UMS), and Chelsea River Gallery.

PRESENTATION: 5:10pm

Michigan Theater
603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor

2/4 ~ 2/25

Exhibition:
A&D 7th Annual Faculty Exhibition



AN EXPANSIVE SNAPSHOT of current creative practice by faculty from the School of Art & Design, with a lively mix of work in a spectrum of media, from paintings, prints and ceramics, to installation, performance and kinetic work.

EXHIBITION OPENING RECEPTION:
Friday, Feb. 4th 6:00 - 9:00pm

Slusser Gallery
1st floor 2000 Bonisteel Blvd., Ann Arbor

2/4 ~ 2/25

Exhibition:
A&D Emeritus Faculty Exhibition



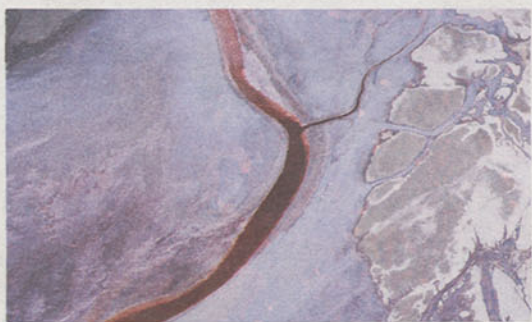
A CELEBRATION of the creative energy of A&D's emeritus faculty, including work by George Bayliss, Vince Castagnacci, Mignonette Cheng, Wendel Heers, Al Hinton, Gerald Hodge, Myra Larson, Denis Lee, Bill Lewis, Gene Pijanowski, Ted Ramsay, Jon Rush, Richard Sears, John Stephenson, Takeshi Takahara, and Georgette Zirbes.

EXHIBITION OPENING RECEPTION:
Friday, Feb. 4th 6:00 - 9:00pm

Work • Ann Arbor
306 S. State, Ann Arbor

2/10

Penny Stamps Series: David Maisel



Title: RENDERING THE INVISIBLE
DAVID MAISEL'S LARGE-SCALED otherworldly photographs of environmentally impacted sites propose an expanded definition of beauty that encompasses the damaged, the transmuted, and the decomposed, examining both the aesthetics and politics of open pit mines, clear-cut forests, and zones of water reclamation. His work has been the subject of three monographs: *The Lake Project*, *Oblivion*, and *Library of Dust*.

With support from Arts Engine.

PRESENTATION: 5:10pm

Michigan Theater
603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor

2/11 ~ 2/24

Exhibition: Six



WORK BY A&D'S first year graduate students.

EXHIBITION OPENING RECEPTION:
Friday, Feb. 11th 6:00 - 9:00pm

Warren Robbins Gallery
2nd floor, 2000 Bonisteel Blvd.

2/17

Penny Stamps Series: J Mays



Title: THREE THINGS THAT MATTER
AS VICE-PRESIDENT OF DESIGN FOR FORD Motor Company, J. Mays is one of the industry's most influential automotive designers. Since joining Ford in 1997, he has overseen the development of the new Ford Thunderbird, the Ford Explorer, concept cars including the Jaguar F-Type and Volvo Safety Car and, most recently, innovations in electric powered vehicles and beyond.

With support from the College of Engineering and the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, (TCAUP).

PRESENTATION: 5:10pm

Michigan Theater
603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor

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Caring for a spouse, parent or loved one with Alzheimer's disease, dementia or memory loss is challenging and requires a commitment to face each day with patience, flexibility and compassion. Often these conditions require caregivers to seek an extra level of support to ensure the well-being of a loved one. Towsley Village Memory Care Center at Chelsea Retirement Community provides the very highest level of care to its residents. We also offer respite care for those needing a helping hand at home.

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Husband of a Towsley Village Resident

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